The Steinitz French
300 Reference Games

Chess Notes 2025

1 **C11**
□ **Ethereal** **3810**
■ **Komodomcts** **3809**
TCEC 18 Premier 2020 (8.5) 21.03.2020
[John Watson,TA]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.d4 e6 2.e4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.a3**
[8.Qd2 b5 9.dxc5 is seen in two other games this month.]
8...b5 0.54/21
[8...cxd4= 0.14/21 9.Nxd4 Nxd4 10.Qxd4 Qc7]
9.Ne2± A somewhat unusual move that leads to complex positional play.
[9.dxc5 is the main move here.]
[9.Bd3 Rb8 10.0-0 cxd4 11.Nxd4 Nxd4 12.Bxd4 b4 13.f5 Bc5 14.Ne2 Qg5 15.fxe6 fxe6 16.axb4 Rxb4 17.c3 Rxb2 18.Bxa6 Ke7 19.Bxc5+ Nxc5 20.Bxc8 Rxc8 21.Ra7+ Rb7 22.Rxb7+ Nxb7 23.Qd4 Nc5 ½-½ Bok,B (2596)-Aronian,L (2729) Julius Baer GenCup PI/In rapid 2024 (9)]
9...Be7 Here are a couple of over-the-board examples:
[9...b4 1.47/20 9...Be7 0.37 10.axb4 Nxb4 11.c3 0.77/18 *(11.dxc5! Bxc5 12.Ned4!±; 11.dxc5 1.46/21 Bxc5 12.Ned4)* 11...Nc6± 12.g3!? -0.01/19 *(12.dxc5± 0.88/17 Bxc5 13.Ned4 Nxd4 14.Nxd4)* 12...Rb8= 13.Rb1 -0.01/18 *(13.dxc5 -0.01/20 13.f5 0.37 Bxc5 14.Ned4 Rxb2 15.Bd3!?; 13.f5± 0.40/18* might be stronger.*)* 13...Be7= 14.Bg2 a5 15.0-0 0-0 16.g4 -0.69/18 Slow. *(16.f5!? exf5 17.Nf4∞; 16.Re1=* 0.23/20 *)* 16...Ba6!∓ 17.Rf2 Qb6 18.Qd2 -1.35/21 *(18.Kh1∓* -0.65/16 *)* 18...a4∓ 19.f5 -2.44/18 *(19.Ra1∓* -1.16/17 *)* 19...a3!-+ 20.f6? -4.90/17 *(20.Nf4* -1.85/15 is a better chance. *Bc4 21.Qc1)*
A) 20...gxf6 and White has no attack;
B) 20...gxf6!-+ -4.90/17 21.exf6 *(21.Ng3 fxe5)* 21...Nxf6 22.dxc5 Qb7;
C) 20...Bxf6? 1.06/16 21.exf6± Nxf6 22.b3?! -3.41/20 *(22.dxc5; 22.dxc5±* 0.94/19 is forced if you want to stay better. *Qxb2 23.Rxb2 Rxb2 24.Ned4 Rxd2 25.Rxd2)* 22...Ne4-+ 23.Qc2 a2? -0.62/23 *(23...Bd3!-+* -2.62/19 *24.Qxd3 c4)* 24.Ra1 -1.22/21 *(24.Qxa2∓* -0.62/23 *Bxe2 25.dxc5)* 24...Nxf2∓ 25.Kxf2 Qxb3∓ -0.89/22 , although eventually drawn, Kryvoruchko,Y (2698) -Svane,R (2600) Germany 2019 *(⌓25...Bxe2* -1.35/22 *26.Qxe2 Qxb3 27.Rxa2 cxd4 28.cxd4 Nb4)*]
[9...Qb6 10.c3 (the plan in our game) c4!? 1.34/18 *(⌓10...f6* 0.72/18 *)* 11.g4!± h5 12.gxh5 Rxh5 13.Ng3 Rh8 14.h4 Be7 1.68/18 *(14...f5±* 1.31/17 *15.Ng5 Ne7)* 15.Ng5 1.21/19 *(15.h5±; 15.Kf2+-* 1.68/18 *)* 15...Bb7?! 2.16/20 *(15...Bxg5±* 1.21/19 *16.hxg5 Rxh1 17.Nxh1 g6)* 16.Qf3? 0.61/16 *(16.Qe2±; 16.Kf2+-* 2.16/20 *)* 16...Bxg5!±
A) 17.fxg5 0.22/19 17.hxg5 0.87 Ncxe5! 18.dxe5? -1.96/19 *(18.Qg2±* 0.35/18 keeps the upper hand. *)* 18...d4!∓;
B) 17.hxg5 0-0-0 18.Be2± Gurevich,D (2460)-Vykouk,J (2430) Ceske Budejovice 2017]
10.c3N A standard structure. How will Black counter White's space advantage?
[10.dxc5 was seen in the same match

but with reversed colors: Nxc5 *(10...Bxc5 11.Ned4 Nxd4 12.Nxd4 Qc7 13.Qd2 Be7 14.Bd3 Nc5 15.0-0 0-0 16.Qc3 Qd7 17.Nf5 exf5 18.Bxc5 Bxc5+ 19.Qxc5 d4 20.Rfd1 Qa7 21.Qxa7 Rxa7 22.a4 b4 23.a5 g5 24.fxg5 Re8 25.Re1* 1-0 Wegener,O (2384)-Simunic,K (2073) Hvar Arsenal op 3rd 2024 (7)*)* 11.Ned4 Nxd4 12.Bxd4 0-0 13.c3 Bd7 14.b4 My engine prefers *(14.Bd3* and*; 14.Be2* , but if Black then plays ...a5 and White plays b4, it might come to something similar.*)* 14...Ne4 15.Bd3 Rc8 16.Qc2 a5 Hoping for ...axb4. *(16...f6!?)* 17.Bxe4!? *(* Black gets great compensation, so maybe simply *17.Qb2* was better*)* 17...dxe4 18.Qxe4 Bc6 19.Qe3 axb4 20.axb4 Ra8 21.Rxa8 Qxa8= with the bishop pair and light square pressure for the pawn. KomodoMCTS 2503.05 (3809)-Ethereal 12.01 (3810) tcec-chess.com INT 2020]

10...Na5?! 0.72/19 I guess engines still have some problems with positional chess in locked positions! This is not the quality of move we expect from a 3810 player.

[10...0-0 followed by ...a5 or ...f5 is more to the point.]

[10...0-0= 0.27/21]

11.Ng3 g6 1.74/19 Stopping Nh5 and discouraging f5.

[11...Nc4 is fairly useless after 12.Bc1!]

[11...cxd4± 0.56/20 12.Bxd4 Nc6]

12.b4+- cxb4 13.axb4 Nc4 14.Bxc4 bxc4

[14...dxc4? 2.57/22 14...bxc4 1.24 15.d5! is killing.]

15.h4 h5 1.81/23

[15...Nb6± 1.42/20 16.h5 Kd7]

16.Ra5 1.42/22 Stopping ...a5. My much weaker engine suggests

[16.f5! , which is genuinely strong. There might follow

A) 16...exf5 17.Ne2 aiming for Bg5. 0-0 2.40/21 *(17...Nf8±* 1.27/21 *)* 18.Bg5+- Re8 19.Bxe7 Qxe7 20.0-0 Bb7 21.Nf4;

B) 16...exf5± 1.37/23 17.Ne2 Nf8;

C) 16...gxf5 2.18/21 17.Bg5 , getting rid off White's only bad piece for Black's only good one.]

[16.f5+- 1.81/23]

16...Nf8 17.Ng5

[Again, 17.f5!? 1.18/22 17.Ng5 1.73]

17...Rb8 1.75/21

[17...Bb7± 1.39/22]

18.0-0 Rb6

[18...Rb5!?]

19.Qf3

[19.f5?! exf5 20.Qd2 Ne6±]

19...Bb7 20.Ne2 Nh7 21.Qg3 Nxg5 22.fxg5 Bc6 1.79/24 How will a computer engine go about breaking the blockade? Black is weak on the dark squares

[22...Rb5± 1.41/23]

23.Kh2 1.26/21

[23.Rf3+- 1.79/24]

23...Rh7± 24.Ra2 1.40/23

[24.Qe1+- 1.84/23]

24...Kd7 25.Bf4 Qa8 26.Qe1 Rb7 1.75/21

[26...Qg8± 1.29/22 27.Be3 Bb5]

27.Qa1+- Ra7 28.Ng1 Bd8 1.81/20

[28...Bb5± 1.33/19 29.Be3 Bd8]

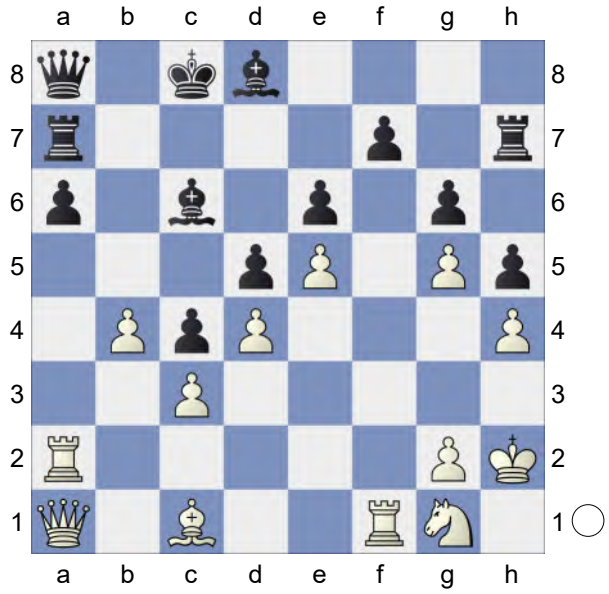
29.Bc1 1.43/22

[29.Nh3!+- 1.81/20]

29...Kc8

[29...Bb5 would stop b5 then 30.g4 0.72/21 *(⌓30.Nh3!* 1.19/20 *)* 30...hxg4± 31.Kg3 might follow, with

an eventual h5 break.]



30.b5! Bxb5 31.Ba3! An ideal pawn sac: Now the bishop is powerful, and Black has to be careful about simplifications due to his horrid h7 rook and bad light-squared bishop. **31...Bb6**
[For example, 31...Be7? 7.46/24 31...Bb6 1.45 32.Bxe7 Rxe7 33.Ra5 Qb7 34.Qa3 Kb8 35.Rb1]
32.Bc5! Qc6 33.Bxb6 Qxb6 34.Nf3 1.51/21
[34.Kh3+- 1.91/20]
34...Rh8± 35.Ra5 White has strong compensation. **35...Kb7 36.Rb1** 1.11/24
[36.Ne1+- 1.72/25]
36...Rha8 1.48/23
[⌓36...Rb8 1.11/24]
37.Qa3 Kc8 38.Ne1 1.10/21
[⌓38.Kh3 1.46/22]
38...Qc7 39.Nc2 Rb8 40.Nb4
[40.Qf8+ Kb7 41.Qa3 Ka8±]
40...Rba8 1.62/22
[40...Rb6± 1.12/23]
41.Kg3 Qe7 42.Kh2? -0.01/21
[42.Qa2+- 1.67/23]
42...Kd8 1.49/25
[Black should play 42...Qc7!= -0.01/21]
43.Rf1 Kd7 44.g3 Kd8 45.Rf2 Ke8 46.Rf6 Kd8 47.Qa1 Kc8 48.g4 Finally! **48...hxg4 49.Kg3 Qd7 50.Kxg4** White has more active pieces. **50...Rb8 51.Qa3**
[51.Nxa6 Rba8 52.Qf1 Bxa6=]
51...Rb6 52.Nc2 Qd8 53.Qc5+ Kb8 54.Qa3? -0.01/21
[54.Rf2+- 1.65/21]
54...Be8 1.44/23
[54...Kc8!= -0.01/21]
55.Nb4 Kb7 56.Kf3 1.07/24
[56.h5+- 1.64/21 gxh5+ 57.Kxh5]
56...Qc8 57.Kg3 White is making no progress. Eventually h5 will have to be played. **57...Ra8 58.Rf1 Qc7 59.Rb1 Bb5 60.Qb2 Be8 61.Rba1 Qd8 62.Qc1**
[62.Rxa6? Raxa6 63.Rxa6 Rxa6-+]
62...Qe7 63.Qc2 Bb5 64.Qb2 Ra7 65.Qb1 Kc8 66.Qa2 Ra8 67.Qa3 Rb7 1.71/22
[67...Kb7± 1.01/22]
68.Qc1 1.03/19
[68.Nxa6 Qxa3 69.R1xa3 *(69.R5xa3? Rba7-+)* 69...Bxa6 70.Rxa6 Rxa6 71.Rxa6 Rb3∓]
[68.Rf1+- 1.71/22]
68...Rba7 1.91/20
[68...Rb6± 1.03/19]
69.Qa3? -0.01/20
[Better is 69.Kg4+- 1.91/20]
69...Qd7? 1.83/21
[69...Rb7!= -0.01/20]
70.Rb1 Qe7 71.Ra1? -0.01/41
[71.Rf1+- 1.97/22]
71...Kb7? 1.80/22
[71...Qd7= -0.01/41]
72.Kg2 Qd8 73.Kh3 Qd7 74.Rf1 Qe7 75.Rf2 Kc8 76.Kg4 Qe8 77.Rf3 1.43/20
[77.Rf6+- 1.81/21]
77...Kd7 78.Nc2 Qe7 79.Nb4? -0.01/19

[79.Qa2+- 1.69/21]

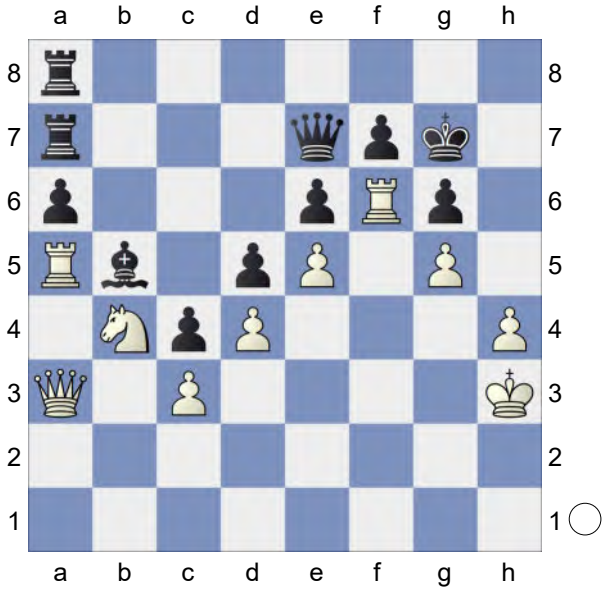
79...Ke8? 1.78/21

[79...Qe8!= -0.01/19 and Black is okay.]

80.Kh3 Kf8 2.95/21

[⌓80...Kd8 1.75/21 81.Rf6 Qe8]

81.Rf6+- Kg7



I'm not sure if it helped Black at all to bring the king over, but maybe this is some sort of ideal defensive setup.

82.h5! gxh5!? This feels wrong. One could try to make White prove it by playing something like

[82...Rg8]

83.Qc1 Rh8 84.Qb1 Qe8? 4.22/19

[84...Be8 2.33/19 85.Nxa6 h4]

85.Ra2 Rh7 86.Rg2 Kh8 87.Nc2

[87.g6 fxg6 88.Rgxg6 Rag7=]

87...Qe7? 5.11/21

[87...a5 2.68/17 is a better defense. 88.Kh2 Bc6]

88.Ne3 Rb7 89.Qc2

[89.Rh6!]

89...Bc6 5.06/22

[89...Qa3? 7.86/22 89...Rd7 3.36]

[⌓89...Rd7 3.57/19 90.g6 fxg6]

90.g6 fxg6 91.Qxg6 Rb8 Repels Qg8+

92.Nf5!!

[92.Rxe6? Bd7 93.Qf6+ Qxf6 94.exf6 h4-+ *(94...Bxe6+? 95.Kh2-+)*]

92...exf5 93.Qxf5 Now the idea of e6 and Qe5 can hardly be countered.

[93.Rxc6 f4 94.Rxa6 *(94.Rf6 f3+-)* 94...Qf7 95.Qxf7 Rxf7±]

93...Bd7 94.e6! Discovered Attack

94...Re8 95.Rgg6!

[95.exd7 Qxd7 96.Qxd7 Rxd7=]

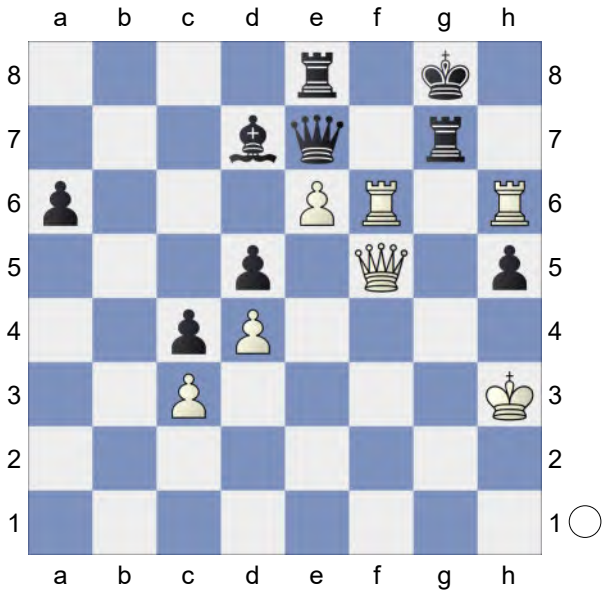
95...Rg7 96.Rh6+!

[96.exd7 Qxd7 97.Rg3 *(97.Rh6+ Kg8=)* 97...Qxf5+ 98.Rxf5 a5∓]

[96.Qxh5+ Rh7 97.Kg4 Qxe6+ 98.Rxe6 Rxe6 99.Qxd5 Rd6+ *(99...Rxg6+? 100.Kf4-+)* 100.Kg3 Rxd5-+]

96...Kg8

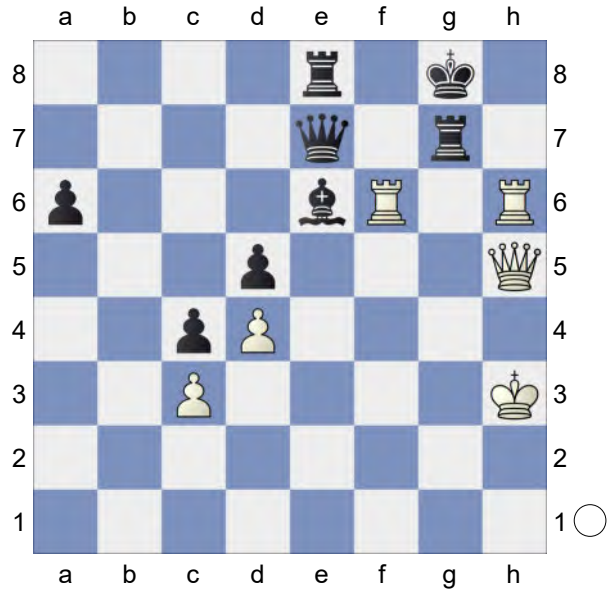
[96...Rh7 97.Rfg6 Inhibits Rg8. Rg8 98.Rxh7+ Qxh7 99.Qf6+? 0.00/5 *(99.Qe5+* #16/29 mates *Rg7 100.Rxg7 Qxg7 101.exd7 Qxe5 102.dxe5 Kg7 103.d8Q Kg6 104.Qf6+ Kh7 105.e6 a5 106.e7 a4 107.e8Q a3 108.Qfh8#)*]



97.Qxh5!

[97.exd7 Qe3+ 98.Qf3 Rxd7=]

97...Qxe6+
[97...Bxe6+



98.Kh2! Qd6+ 99.Kh1]
98.Rxe6 Bxe6+ 99.Kh2 Kf8 100.Rh8+ Bg8 101.Qf5+
[Worse is 101.Qxd5 Rh7+ 102.Kg1 Rxh8=]
101...Rf7 102.Qg4
[102.Qxd5 Rh7+ 103.Kg1 Rxh8=]
102...Rh7+ 103.Rxh7 Bxh7
Endgame KQ-KRB **104.Qf3+ Ke7 105.Qxd5 Bd3 106.Qb7+ Kf6 107.Qxa6+ Re6 108.Qc8 Ke7 109.Qc7+ Kf6 110.d5 Re2+ 111.Kg3 Re3+ 112.Kg2 Bf5** 20.28/23
[⌓112...Be4+ 4.76/20 113.Kf2 Rd3]
113.Qb6+ Kg5 114.Qxe3+ Kh4 115.Qf4+ Bg4 116.Qf6+ Kh5 117.Kg3 Kf4 would kill now. **117...Be6 118.Kf4** Weighted Error Value: White=0.22 (precise) /Black=0.20 (precise)
118...Bxd5
1-0

2 **C11**
□ **LCZero v0.25.1-sv-t60-3010** **3809**
■ **Ethereal** **3708**
TCEC 18 Premier 2020 (34.2) 10.06.2020
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.d4 e6 2.e4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Be7 7.Be3 0-0 8.Qd2 b6** White is slightly better. **9.a3**
[9.h4 Ba6 10.Bxa6 Nxa6 11.h5 Rc8 12.Ne2 cxd4 13.Nexd4 Nac5 14.0-0-0 Ne4 15.Qe1 b5 16.f5 Qb6 17.Kb1 Ndc5 18.f6 gxf6 19.Qh4 Kh8 20.Rhf1 Qd8 21.exf6 Bxf6 22.Qh2 Na4 23.Ne5 Qe7 1-0 Van Foreest,J (2677)-Korobov,A (2629) EU-ch Blitz Skopje 2024 (9)]
9...Nc6
[9...Ba6 10.Bxa6 Nxa6 11.0-0 Nc7 12.Rae1 f5 13.exf6 Nxf6 14.Bf2 Bd6 15.Kh1 Qd7 16.Ne5 Bxe5 17.Rxe5 c4 18.Qe2 Qc6 19.Bh4 Nd7 20.Re3 Rf7 21.f5 Raf8 22.Bg3 Rxf5 23.Rxf5 Rxf5 24.Bxc7 1-0 Gledura,B (2639)-Korobov,A (2660) EU-Cup 39th Vrnjacka Banja 2024 (4.4)]
10.h4N
[10.Bd3 f5 11.0-0 cxd4 12.Nxd4 Nxd4 13.Bxd4 Nc5 14.Bb5 Ba6 15.a4 Bxb5 16.axb5 Ne4 17.Qd3 Qd7 18.Ne2 Rac8 19.c3 Rc7 20.h3 h6 21.Kh2 Kh7 22.Ng3 Nxg3 23.Kxg3 Bc5 24.Kh2 Bxd4 ½-½ Dreev,A (2668)-Roiz,M (2635) RUS-chT 16th 2009 (5) 25.cxd4 Rfc8 26.Ra3 Rc2 27.Rfa1 Rxb2 28.Rxa7 Rc7 29.Rxc7 Qxc7 30.Ra6 Qc1 31.Qg3 Rb1 32.Qf2 Qh1+ 33.Kg3 Rb3+ 34.Kh4 Qc1 35.Rxb6 g5+ 36.Kh5 Rxh3+ 0-1 Najer,E (2640)-

Lou,Y (2419) CHN-chT Beijing 2012 (18)]

10...Qc7 11.0-0-0 a6 12.Bd3! cxd4 13.Nxd4 b5 14.Rh3 -0.01/20

[14.Qe2± 0.52/22]

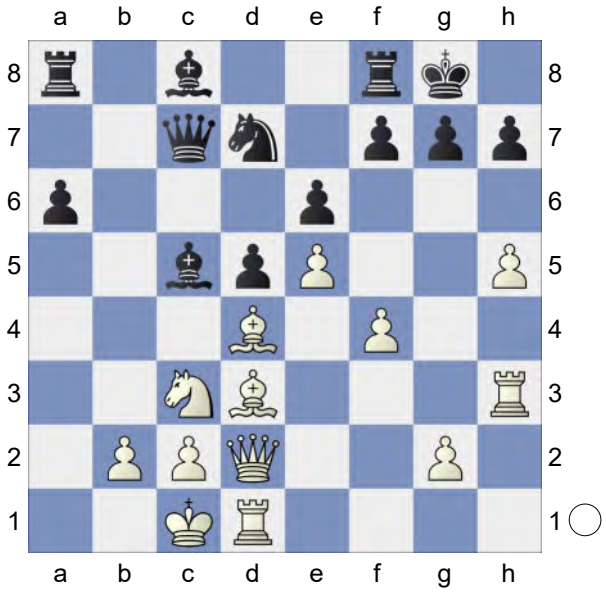
14...Nxd4 0.58/23

[14...Rb8!= -0.01/20]

15.Bxd4± b4 0.86/23

[15...f6!± 0.41/23]

16.axb4± Bxb4 17.h5 Bc5



18.h6! g6!

[18...Bxd4 19.Bxh7+ Kxh7 20.hxg7+ Kg8 21.f5 *(21.gxf8R+ Kxf8 22.Qxd4 Qc5+-)* 21...f6 22.fxe6 *(22.gxf8B Nxf8 23.Qxd4 Qxe5+-)*]

19.Be2! Rb8 1.02/23

[19...Bb7± 0.50/22]

20.Na2 Be7 21.Rc3 Black is weak on the dark squares **21...Qd8** 1.25/23

[21...Qb7!± 0.66/24 22.Rb3 Qa8]

22.g4 0.55/24

[22.Qe3± 1.25/23]

22...a5 1.21/23

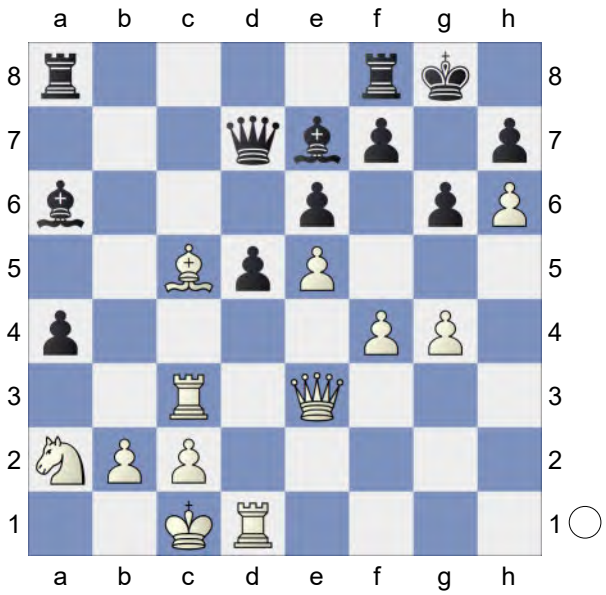
[22...Nb6!± 0.55/24]

23.Qe3!↑ Keeping Black busy. **23...a4 24.Ba7! Ra8 25.Bb5** White has more active pieces. **25...Bb7** Prevents Bc6 **26.Bxd7**

[26.Bxa4? Qa5 27.Rd4 *(27.Bxd7? Rxa7 28.Rb3 Qxa2-+)* 27...Rxa7-+]

26...Qxd7 27.Bc5 Ba6 1.79/23

[27...Rfd8± 0.90/23]

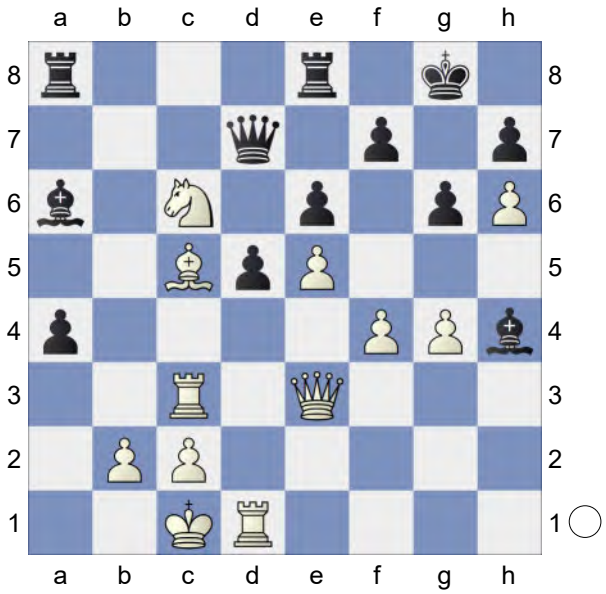


28.Nb4!+- Rfe8 2.11/24

[28...Bb5± 1.26/25]

29.Nc6 Deflection **29...Bh4** 2.24/24

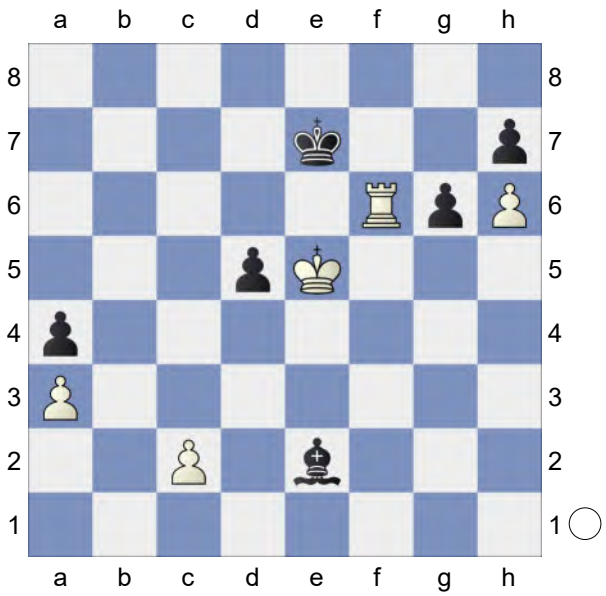
[29...Qxc6± 1.55/24 was necessary. 30.Bxe7 Discovered Attack Qb5]



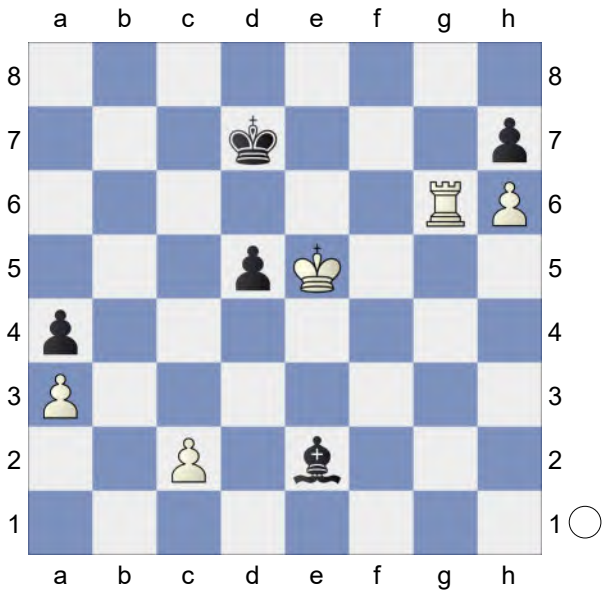
30.Ba3! Rac8 31.Nd4 Rxc3 32.Qxc3 Bc4 33.Kb1 Be7 3.06/23

[⌓33...Bf2 1.93/23 34.Qf3 Bxd4 35.Rxd4 Qa7]
34.f5 exf5? 4.46/27
[34...gxf5 35.gxf5 Kh8 36.Rg1+-]
[34...Rc8 2.31/23]
35.gxf5 Bxa3 36.e6 fxe6 37.fxe6
[37.Qxa3 exf5 *(37...gxf5 38.Rg1+ Kf7 39.Rg7+* Skewer, Double Attack *Kf6 40.Rxd7+-)* 38.Qc3 Re4∓]
37...Qe7 38.bxa3 Qg5 Dodges Nf5
39.Rh1 Qg2? 5.90/31
[39...Qf6 3.26/23 40.Qe3 Rb8+ 41.Kc1 Bb5]
40.Re1 Qg5 41.Qf3 Re7 Inhibits Qf7+.
42.Qe3
[42.Nc6 Rb7+ 43.Nb4 Re7±]
42...Qxe3 43.Rxe3 Endgame KRB-KRN
43...Kf8 44.Kc1 Ke8 45.Kd2 Ba6 46.Rc3 Inhibits Bc8. **46...Bc4 47.Ke3 Rb7 48.Kf4**
[Weaker is 48.Nc6 Rb1±]
48...Rb1 49.Ke5 Re1+ 50.Kd6 aiming for Rf3. **50...Rb1 51.Rf3 Rb6+ 52.Kc5 Rb7 53.Kd6?** -0.01/23
[53.Rf4+- 10.09/28 Re7 54.Rf6]
53...Ba6? 10.25/29
[53...Rb6+= -0.01/23 54.Kc7 Rb2]
54.Rc3 Bc4 55.Rf3? -0.01/57
[Better is 55.Ke5+- 9.77/25 Ra7 56.Rf3]
55...Ra7? 16.36/30
[55...Ba6= -0.01/57 56.Kxd5 Rc7]
56.Nc6 Rb7 57.e7 Rd7+ 58.Ke5 Rxe7+ 59.Nxe7 Kxe7 KR-KB **60.Rf6** Rb6 would kill now. **60...Be2**

(Diagram)



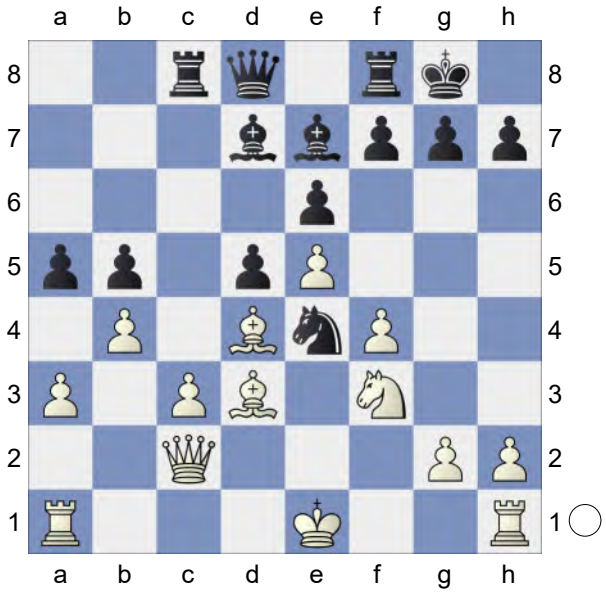
61.Rxg6! Promotion. White mates.
61...Kd7
[61...Kf7 62.Rg7+]



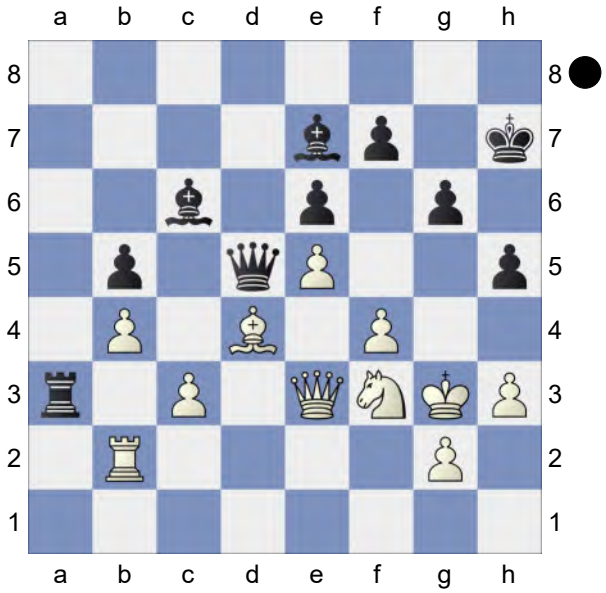
62.Kxd5! Bf3+ 63.Ke5 Bh5 Weighted Error Value: White=0.25 (precise) /Black=0.76 **64.Rg7+**
1-0

3 **C11**
□ **Komodomcts** **3809**
■ **Ethereal** **3810**
TCEC 18 Premier 2020 (11.5) 23.03.2020
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.d4 e6 2.e4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.a3** 0.00/18
[8.Ne2± 0.42/17]
8...b5 0.51/20
[8...cxd4= 0.00/18 9.Nxd4 Nxd4 10.Qxd4 Bc5]
9.Ne2 Be7 10.dxc5
[10.c3 Na5 11.Ng3 g6 12.b4 cxb4 13.axb4 Nc4 14.Bxc4 bxc4 15.h4 h5 16.Ra5 Nf8 17.Ng5 Rb8 18.0-0 Rb6 19.Qf3 Bb7 20.Ne2 Nh7 21.Qg3 Nxg5 22.fxg5 Bc6 23.Kh2 Rh7 24.Ra2 Kd7 1-0 Nielsen,P (3810)-Krause,C (3809) Siemens Man-Machine rematch rapid 1999 (8.5) 25.Bf4 Qa8 26.Qe1 Rb7 27.Qa1 Ra7 28.Ng1 Bd8 29.Bc1 Kc8 30.b5 Bxb5 31.Ba3 Bb6 32.Bc5 Qc6 33.Bxb6 Qxb6 34.Nf3 Rh8 35.Ra5 Kb7 36.Rb1 Rha8 37.Qa3 Kc8 38.Ne1 Qc7 39.Nc2 Rb8 1-0 Ethereal (3810)-Komodomcts (3809) TCEC 20 Premier 2020 (8.5)]
10...Nxc5N
[10...Bxc5 11.Ned4 Nxd4 12.Nxd4 Qc7 13.Qd2 Be7 14.Bd3 Nc5 15.0-0 0-0 16.Qc3 Qd7 17.Nf5 exf5 18.Bxc5 Bxc5+ 19.Qxc5 d4 20.Rfd1 Qa7 21.Qxa7 Rxa7 22.a4 b4 23.a5 g5 24.fxg5 Re8 25.Re1 1-0 Wegener,O (2384)-Simunic,K (2073) Hvar Arsenal op 3rd 2024 (7)]
11.Ned4 Nxd4 12.Bxd4 0-0 13.c3 0.10/19
[13.Bd3± 0.51/18]
13...Bd7 0.46/20
[13...Qc7= 0.10/19 deserves consideration.]
14.b4 Ne4 15.Bd3 Rc8 16.Qc2 a5



...axb4 is the strong threat. **17.Bxe4 dxe4** The position is equal. **18.Qxe4 Bc6 19.Qe3 axb4 20.axb4 Ra8 21.Rxa8 Qxa8 22.0-0 Qa2 23.h3 Ra8 24.Qd3 Qd5 25.Rf2 g6 26.Kh2 Ra3 27.Qb1 h5 28.Kg3** White is weak on the light squares **28...Qc4 29.Qb2 Ra4 30.Qe2 Qb3 31.Qf1 Qd5 32.Rb2 Ra3 33.Qe2 Kg7 34.Qd3 Kh7 35.Qe3**

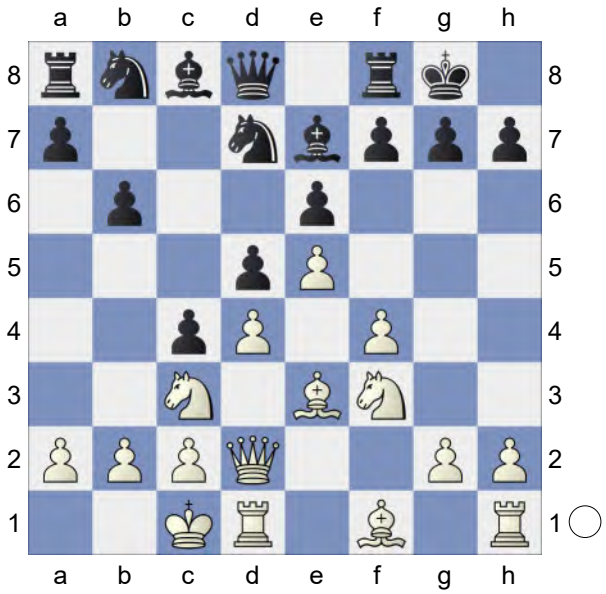


Strongly threatening c4!. Weighted Error Value: White=0.08 (flawless) /Black=0.06 (flawless) **35...Ra2**
½-½

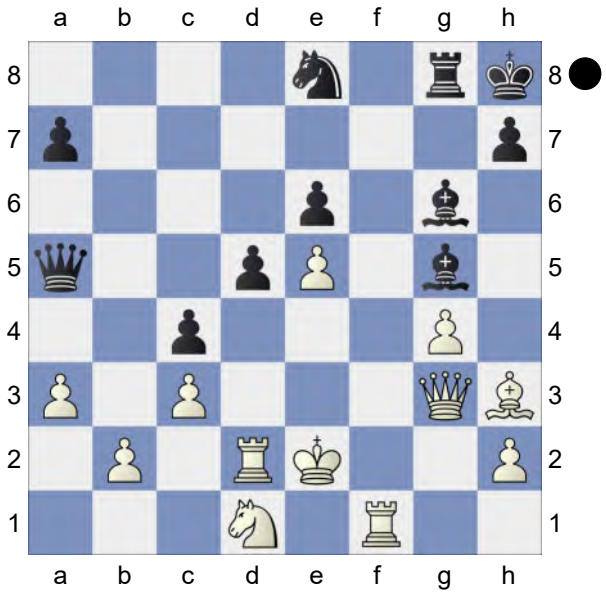
4 **C11**
□ **Ethereal** **3708**
■ **LCZero v0.25.1-sv-t60-3010** **3809**
TCEC 18 Premier 2020 (41.2) 14.06.2020
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.d4 e6 2.e4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Be7 7.Be3 0-0 8.Qd2 b6** White has an edge. **9.0-0-0** -0.01/19
[9.h4± 0.45/18 Ba6 10.Bxa6 Nxa6 11.h5 Rc8 12.Ne2 cxd4 13.Nexd4 Nac5 14.0-0-0 Ne4 15.Qe1 b5 16.f5 Qb6 17.Kb1 Ndc5 18.f6 gxf6 19.Qh4 Kh8 20.Rhf1 Qd8 21.exf6 Bxf6 22.Qh2 Na4 23.Ne5 Qe7 24.Ndc6 1-0 Van Foreest,J (2677)-Korobov,A (2629) EU-ch Blitz Skopje 2024 (9)]
9...c4N
[9...Nc6 10.Kb1 c4 11.f5 b5 12.fxe6 fxe6 13.Nxb5 Rb8 14.Nd6 Bxd6 15.exd6 Nf6 Classical Variation E5 Short & Sweet: The French Defense 16.Qe1 Qxd6 17.Bc1 Bd7 18.g3 Ne4 19.Bg2 Qa3 20.b3 Qa6 21.Ne5 Nb4 22.a3 Nxc2 23.Kxc2 Ba4 24.Bxe4 Rxb3 25.Bxh7+ Kxh7 26.Kd2 c3+ 27.Ke3 Bb5 28.Rd3 Bxd3 29.Nxd3 c2 30.Qe2 Qc4 Arencibia,W (2400)-Paneque,P (2300) (m1) Holguin 1988]

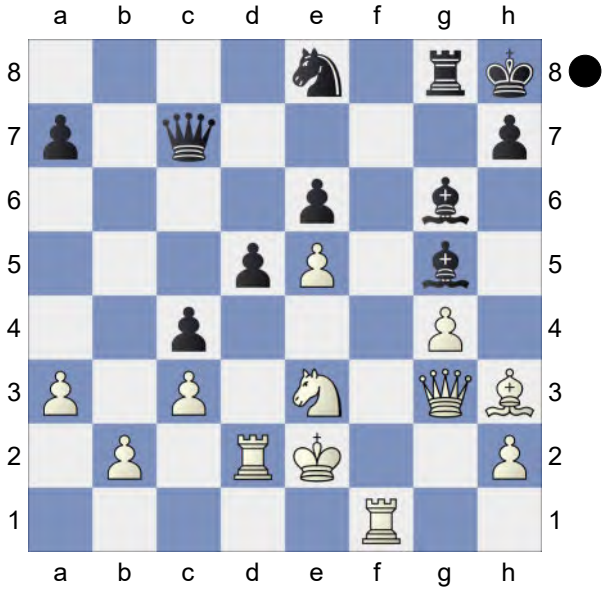
(Diagram)



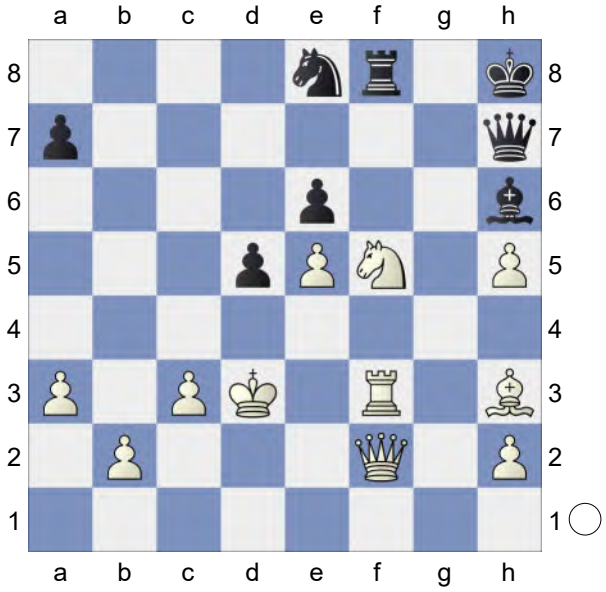
10.f5! b5! 11.f6 Deflection
[11.Nxb5 exf5 12.b3 cxb3 13.cxb3 a6=]
11...gxf6 12.Bh6! Kh8
[12...Nc6!?]
13.Bxf8 -0.18/18
[13.Nxb5 Nc6±]
[White should try 13.Qf4!± 0.40/21]
13...Qxf8 14.exf6 Nxf6 15.Nxb5 Nc6 16.Nc3 Rb8 17.Qf4 Nh5 18.Qe3 Ng7 Black has compensation. **19.g4** Prevents Nf5 **19...f5! 20.Bh3** gxf5 would now be deadly. **20...f4 21.Qf2 Qd8 22.Ne5! Nxe5 23.dxe5 Qa5 24.Rhf1 Qb4 25.Qxf4 Bd7! 26.Kd2! Be8 27.Ke2**
[27.a3!? Qc5□ 28.Kc1±]
27...Bg6!
[27...Qxb2 28.Qf8+ Bxf8 29.Rxf8#]
28.Rd2 Rg8
[28...Qxb2? 29.Rb1 Qxb1 30.Nxb1+-]
29.Nd1 Ne8
[29...Qb5!? 30.Ke1 Bh4+ 31.Rff2 Bxf2+ 32.Kxf2 *(32.Rxf2 Qa5+ 33.c3 Qxa2=)* 32...Qa4=]
30.a3 Qa5 31.Qg3 Bg5 32.c3
(Diagram)



Qc7 -0.26/19
[32...Qd8!∓ -0.80/21]
33.Ne3 -0.77/20
[33.Bg2= -0.26/19]



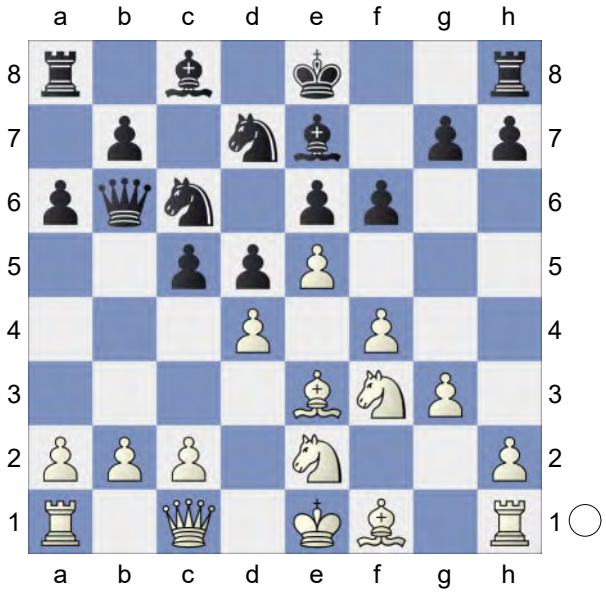
33...Qb6 -0.11/17
[33...Qe7!∓ -0.77/20]
34.Rf4! Qc7
[34...Bd3+!? 35.Kd1 Qb3+ *(35...Bxf4 36.Qxf4 Qb3+ 37.Ke1±)* 36.Ke1 Bxf4 37.Qxf4 Qa2±]
35.Rf3 h5 36.gxh5! Bd3+ 37.Rxd3! cxd3+ 38.Kxd3 Qh7+!
[38...Bxe3 39.Qxg8+ Kxg8 40.Bxe6+ Kg7 *(40...Kh8 41.Rf8+ Kh7 42.Rf7+ Kh6 43.Rxc7=)* 41.Rf7+ *(41.Rxe3? Qc6-+)* 41...Qxf7 42.Bxf7 Kxf7 43.Kxe3-+]
39.Nf5! Bh6 40.Qf2 Rf8



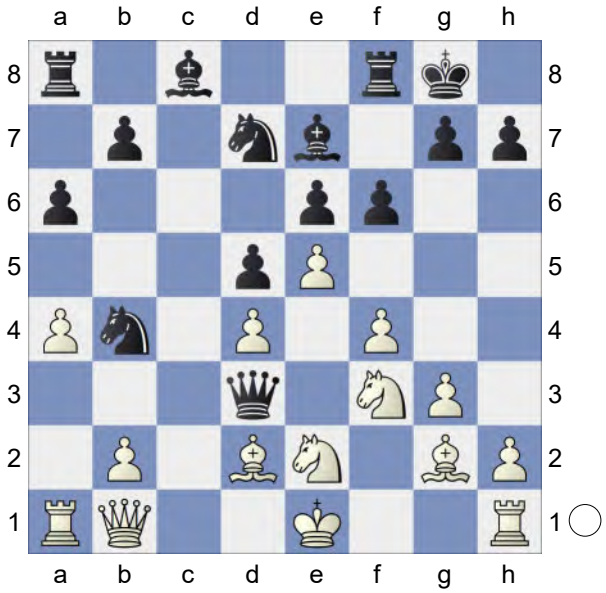
Pin **41.Ke2! exf5 42.Rxf5 Rg8 43.Qd4 Qb7 44.b4** The position is equal. **44...Qa6+ 45.Qd3 Qxa3 46.Rf7!** Some like it hot **46...Ng7⇄** White must now prevent ...Qa2+. Black has counterplay **47.e6 Qb2+**
[47...Nxh5 48.Rh7#]
48.Kf1 Qa1+
[48...Qxh2 49.Bg4∓]
49.Ke2 Qa2+
[49...Nxh5 50.Rh7#]
50.Kf1 Qa1+
[Don't play 50...Qxh2 51.Bg4∓]
51.Kf2 Qb2+ Skewer
[And not 51...Nxh5 52.Rh7#]
Weighted Error Value: White=0.05 (flawless) /Black=0.07 (flawless) **52.Ke1**
½-½

5 **C11**
□ **Stockfish dev-20250118-8e3e22**
■ **LCZero 0.31-dag-c93c6a8-BT4-6**
TCEC 27 Theory Bonus (14.2) 23.01.2025
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 This game features two exchange sacrifices, one by each player. The computer approves only one of those but I liked both! **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.Ne2 Qb6 9.Qc1 Be7 10.g3** 0.14/23
[10.h4± 0.56/21]
10...f6



11.c3 cxd4 12.cxd4 0-0 13.Bg2! Qb4+N
[13...Qa5+ 14.Nc3 Nb6 15.exf6 Bxf6 16.b3 Bd7 17.0-0 Rac8 18.Qd2 Be7 19.Ne2 Qxd2 20.Bxd2 Rc7 21.Rac1 Rfc8 22.f5 Ba3 23.Rce1 Bb4 24.Bxb4 Nxb4 25.fxe6 Bxe6 26.Nf4 Bf5 27.Ne5 g6 28.g4 1-0 Caruana,F (2773)-Amin,B (2608) chess.com (Internet-rapid) 2020 Be4 29.Bxe4 dxe4 30.a3 N4d5 31.Rxe4 Rc3 32.Nd7 Rxb3 33.Nxd5 Nxd5 34.Re5 Nc3 35.Nf6+ Kf7 36.Nd7+ 1-0 Deslandes,P (2764)-Molina,R (2853) WCC 2004 (1)]
14.Bd2 Qb5 15.a4 Qd3 16.Qb1 Nb4

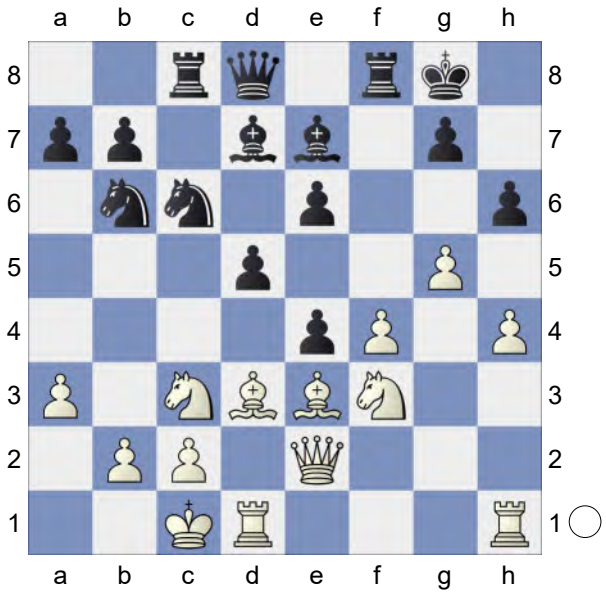


17.Kf2 Nb8 18.Ra3 Qxb1 19.Rxb1 N8c6 20.Rc1 Bd7 21.Bh3 a5 22.Kg2 Kf7 23.Re3 f5 24.Kf2 h6 25.g4 g6 26.gxf5 gxf5 27.Bf1 Na2 28.Ra1 Nab4 29.Rc3 Prevents Nc2 **29...Na7 30.Ne1 Rfc8 31.Ke3 Rxc3+ 32.Nxc3 Rc8 33.Be2 b6 34.Bd1 Kf8 35.Rb1 Be8 36.Be2 Bh4 37.Bd1 Rc4 38.Nf3 Be7 39.Be1 Rc7 40.Rc1 Bh5 41.Be2 Bd8 42.Bf1 Be8 43.Kd2 Bh5 44.Be2 Kf7 45.Bf2 Kf8 46.Rg1 Rg7 47.Rc1**
[47.Rxg7 simplifies Kxg7 48.Bh4 Bxh4 49.Nxh4 Bxe2 50.Nxe2 Na2 51.Kc2]
47...Rc7 48.Ke3 Kg8 49.Rg1+ Rg7 50.Rc1 Rc7 51.Rg1+ Rg7 52.Rf1 Rb7 53.Bg3 Kf8 54.Bf2 Rc7 55.Kd2 Rg7 56.Ke3 Rc7 57.Rg1 Rg7 58.Rc1 Rc7 59.Bf1 Be8 60.Kd2 Bh5 61.Be2 Kg8 62.Rg1+ Rg7 63.Rc1 Rc7 64.Bg3 Kf8 65.Rg1 Rg7 66.Rc1 Rc7 67.Ke3 Be8 68.Rb1 Bh5 69.Bf2 Rg7 70.Rc1 Rc7 71.Bf1 Rc8 72.Ne1 Be7 73.Kd2 Rc7 74.Ra1 Nbc6 75.Nc2 Nb4 76.Ne1

Nbc6 77.Nc2 Rb7 78.Ke3 Rc7 79.Bd3 Be8 80.Be2 Rc8 81.Kd2 Rc7 82.h4 Bd8 83.h5 Rg7 84.Bf3 Be7 85.Rc1 Bb4 86.Kd3 Bxc3 87.bxc3 Na3 is in the air **87...b5! 88.Rb1 bxa4 89.Na3 Bd7 90.Bd1 Bc8 91.Bxa4 Rb7 92.Ra1 Bd7 93.Bd1 Nc8**
[93...Rb2 looks sharper. 94.Nc2 Nb5 95.Bh4 Rb3]
94.Be3 Be8! 95.Bc1 Nb6 96.Rb1 Rb8 97.Kc2 Na7 98.Kd3 Nc6 99.Kc2 Na7! 100.Be2 Ba4+ 101.Kd2 Nc4+! The position is equal. **102.Bxc4 Rxb1 103.Nxb1 dxc4 104.Ba3+ Ke8 105.Bc5 Nb5 106.Bb6 Bb3** and ...Ba2 would now be decisive Weighted Error Value: White=0.07 (flawless) /Black=0.03 (flawless) **107.Bxa5**
½-½

6 C11
□ **Stockfish dev-20230903-b25d68**
■ **Stoofvlees li B5 3492**
TCEC 25 Premier 2023 (20.4) 06.09.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 Nb6** 0.84/18
[5...c5= 0.08/18]
6.a3N
[6.Nf3 Bd7 7.Bd3 Nc6 8.a3 Qe7 9.0-0 0-0-0 10.Qe2 f6 11.b4 Be8 12.h3 f5 13.g4 fxg4 14.hxg4 h5 15.g5 h4 16.g6 Qd7 17.Kh2 Ne7 18.Rg1 Nf5 19.Bxf5 exf5 20.e6 Qc6 1-0 Giffard,N (2333)-Bangnoi,A (2086) Syre Memorial op 33th 2010 (4) 21.Bd2 Nc4 22.Rae1 Bd6 23.Rg5 b5 24.Rxf5 Bxg6 25.Rg5 Bh5 26.Bc1 Be7 27.Rxg7 Bf6 28.Rg2 h3 29.Rgg1 Rdg8 30.Qd3 Rg2+ 31.Rxg2 hxg2 32.Kxg2 Bxf3+ 33.Qxf3 Rg8+ 34.Kf1 Nb6 35.Qd3 Kb7 0-1 Villaescusa Navalon,M (2343)-8.g3 ♘d7 9. ♗g2 e6 10.00 î (2419) Chapter 8 (4) (3) 36.e7 Qe8 37.Qf5 Bxd4 38.Nxd5 Qc8 39.Ne3 Bxe3 0-1 Villaescusa Navalon,M (2343)-Stempka,J (2419) Chapter 8 (4) (3)]
6...c5 7.Nf3 Bd7 8.Be3 White is better. **8...cxd4 9.Nxd4 Nc6 10.Nf3 Be7 11.Bd3 f6** 1.25/19
[11...0-0± 0.61/18]
12.Qe2± 0-0 13.h4 h6 1.70/17
[13...f5± 0.88/17]
14.0-0-0+- Rc8 15.g4 White has more active pieces. **15...fxe5 16.g5!**
[16.Nxe5 Nxe5 17.fxe5 Bxh4 18.Bxb6 axb6∓]
[16.fxe5 Rxf3 17.Qxf3 Nxe5∓]
16...e4 1.92/20
[16...exf4± 1.18/17 17.Bd2 d4 *(17...hxg5? 18.hxg5 e5 19.Qh2+-)*]



17.Nxe4! Na4 1.37/17 Prevents Nc5
[Black should play 17...dxe4± 0.63/19 18.Bxe4 Kh8 19.Bxc6 *(19.gxh6*

gxh6 20.Rhg1 Bf6+-) 19...Rxc6]

18.Ned2± e5? 2.84/20 **19.Nxe5+-**

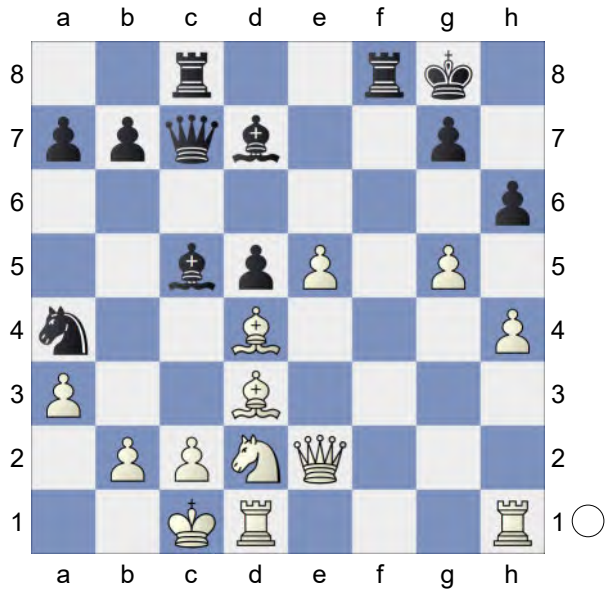
[19.fxe5 Bg4 20.Qg2 *(20.gxh6 Bxa3 21.bxa3 Qe7=)* 20...h5=]

19...Nxe5 20.fxe5 Qc7 21.Bd4

[21.Bxa7 Nxb2 22.Kxb2 Qc3+ 23.Ka2 *(23.Kb1? Bxa3-+)* 23...Qxa3+ *(23...hxg5? 24.Nb1+-)* 24.Kb1 Qxa7-+]

[21.gxh6 Qxe5 22.Nc4 *(22.Bxa7? Qxb2#)* 22...dxc4 *(22...Rxc4? 23.Bd4∓)* 23.Bxc4+ Kh7 *(23...Be6 24.Bd4∓)* 24.Rxd7 Qxb2+ 25.Kd2 Qc3+ *(25...Bxa3? 26.Qd3+ Kh8 27.hxg7++-)* 26.Kd1 Nb2+ *(26...Qxa3? 27.Qd3+ Qxd3+ 28.Bxd3+ Kh8 29.hxg7+ Kxg7 30.Rxe7++-)* 27.Kc1 Nxc4-+ *(27...Qxc4 28.Qxc4 Nxc4 29.Rxe7=; 27...Qxa3? 28.Bg8+ Rxg8 29.Kb1-+)*]

21...Bc5



22.Qg2! Rf7

[22...Be6 23.Nb3]

23.Nb3

[23.Qxd5 Bc6 24.Qe6 *(24.Qc4 b5∓* Deflection *)* 24...Bxd4=]

23...Bxd4 24.Nxd4 Qxe5 3.29/21

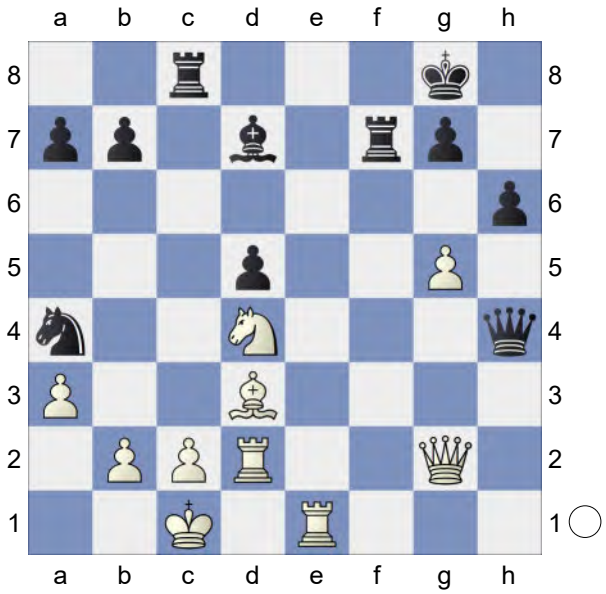
[⌓24...Qb6 2.28/21 25.c3 Kh8 Remove Defender *(25...Qxd4? 26.Bh7+ Kxh7 27.Rxd4+-)*]

25.Rhe1 Qf4+

[25...Qxd4? 26.Bh7+ *(26.gxh6 Qxb2+ 27.Kd2 Qc3+ 28.Kc1 Qxa3+ 29.Kd2 Qb4+ 30.Kc1 Nc3-+)* 26...Kxh7 27.Rxd4+-]

26.Rd2 Qxh4

[26...Qxd4? 27.Bh7+ *(27.gxh6? Qxb2+ 28.Kd1 Nc3#)* 27...Kxh7 28.Rxd4+-]



27.Bh7+! Decoy **27...Kxh7 28.g6+ Kh8 29.Rh1 Qf4** 4.05/18

[29...Qe7 2.52/23 was called for. 30.gxf7 Qxf7]

30.gxf7 Qxf7 31.Rf2 Qe7 32.Kb1

[32.Qxd5 Qe3+ 33.Rd2 Nc5∓]

[32.Qg3 Nc5±]

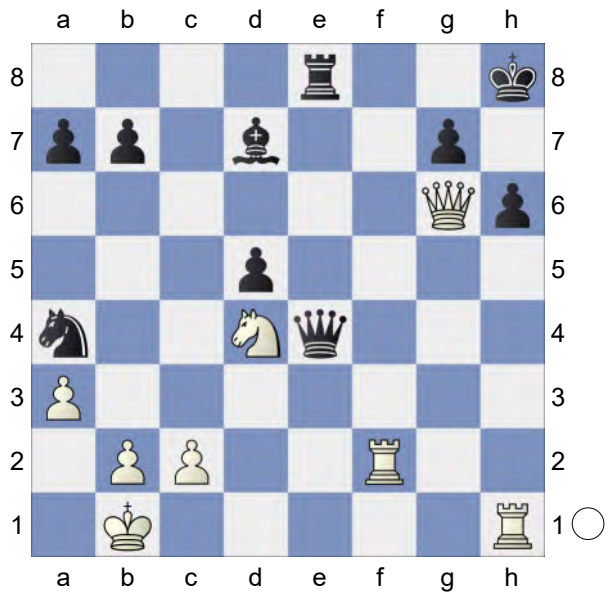
32...Re8? 5.47/21

[32...Nb6 3.02/22 33.Ka2 Qe4]

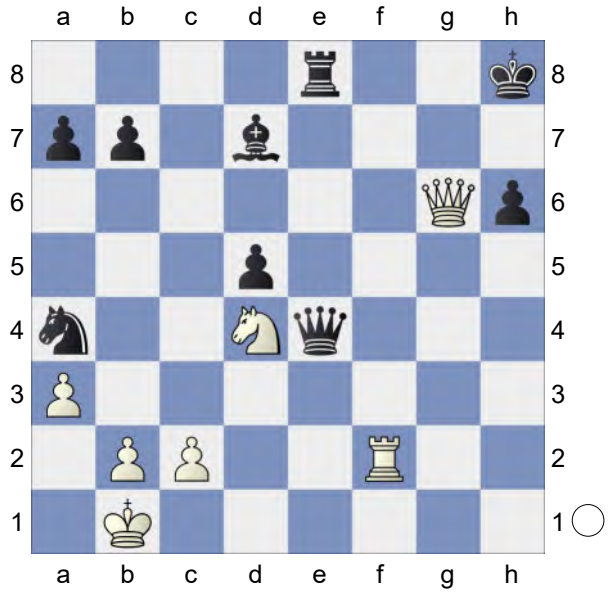
33.Qg6

[33.Qxd5 Qxa3 34.Qxb7 *(34.bxa3 Nc3+ 35.Kc1 Nxd5=; 34.Rxh6+? gxh6 35.bxa3 Nc3+ 36.Kb2 Nxd5-+)* 34...Qd6 35.Qxa7 Rb8±]

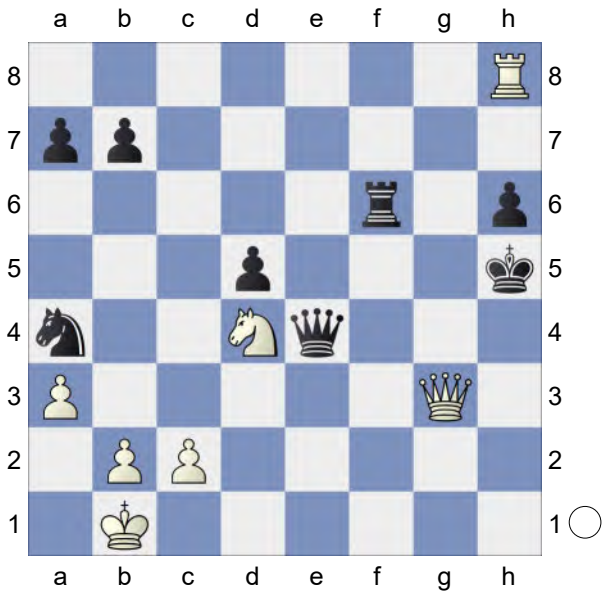
33...Qe4



34.Rxh6+ Deflection **34...gxh6**



35.Qf6+
[35.Qxh6+ Qh7 36.Qxh7+ Kxh7±]
35...Kg8 White must now prevent ...Qg4. **36.Qf7+ Kh8 37.Qxd7** And now Rf6 would win. **37...Re7** 8.26/26
[⌓37...Nb6 4.71/26 38.Qf7 *(38.Qxb7? Qe1+ 39.Ka2 Qxf2-+)* 38...Qe7]
38.Rf8+
[38.Qxa4? Qe1+ 39.Ka2 Qxf2-+]
38...Kg7 39.Qd8
[39.Qxa4? perishes. Kxf8 40.Qxa7 h5-+]
39...Rf7 Inhibits Nf5+. **40.Rg8+**
[40.Rxf7+ Kxf7 41.Qd7+ Kf6+-]
40...Kh7 41.Rh8+ Kg6 42.Qd6+ Skewer **42...Rf6 43.Qg3+ Kh5**

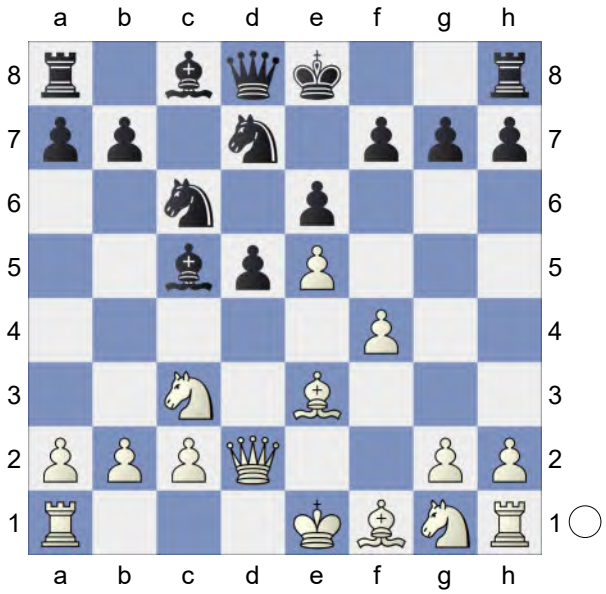


44.Rg8! Rg6 45.Qh3+ Kg5 46.Rf8 Nf3+ would kill now. **46...h5 47.Rf5+ Kh6 48.Rxh5+ Kg7 49.Qd7+ Kg8 50.Qd8+ Kf7 51.Rh7+** Skewer **51...Rg7 52.Qd7+** Skewer **52...Qe7 53.Qxd5+**
[Inferior is 53.Qxa4 Rxh7 54.Qxa7 Qc7=]
53...Ke8 54.Rh8+ White mates. **54...Qf8 55.Qe6+** Black is weak on the light squares **55...Re7 56.Qc8+ Kf7 57.Qxf8+ Kg6 58.Qh6+ Kf7** Weighted Error Value: White=0.04 (flawless) /Black=0.86 **59.Rf8#**
1-0

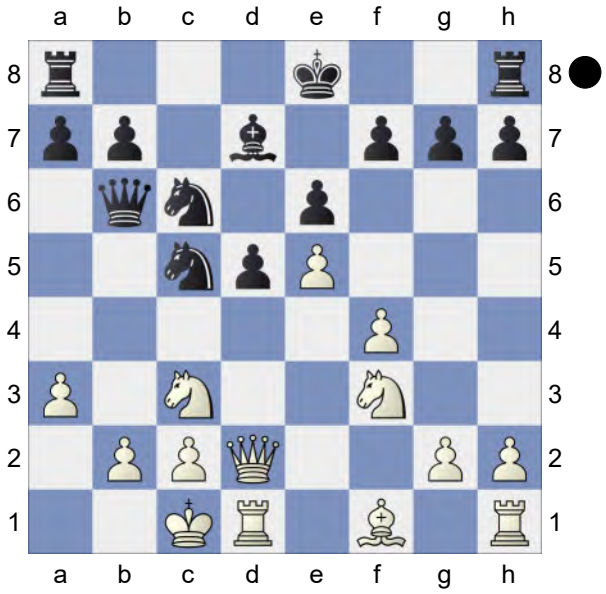
7 **C11**
□ **Stockfish Dev F7** **3662**
■ **LCZero 0.31-dag-5350a2e-BT4-6**
TCEC 26 Balanced Lines (14.2) 01.08.24
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Be3**
[6.Nce2 cxd4 7.Nxd4 Nc6 8.Ngf3 Nc5 *(8...Be7 9.c3 Nc5 10.Be2 0-0 11.Be3 Bd7 12.0-0 f6 13.Qe1 Qe8 14.exf6 Rxf6 15.Nxc6 Bxc6 16.Ne5 Nd7 17.Nxc6 bxc6 18.Bd4 Bc5 19.Kh1 Bxd4 20.cxd4 c5 21.Rc1 cxd4 22.Qd2 Nf8 23.Qxd4* 1-0 Dyachuk,A (2295)-Eggleston,T (2178) Titled Tuesday intern op 21st Jan Late blitz 2025 (1)) 9.Be3 Bd7 10.c3 Be7 11.Nb3 b6 12.Be2 Nxb3 13.axb3 Bc5 14.Qd2 a5 15.0-0 0-0 16.Bd3 Qe7 17.Kh1 f6 18.exf6 gxf6 19.Rae1 Qd6 20.Qf2 Rf7 ½-½ 4.h3 ♗g7 5. ♘f3 de4 6. ♘e (2602)-Kaussen,O (2656) New York op 1996 (5)]
6...cxd4 0.38/18
[6...Nc6= 0.01/19 is superior.]
7.Qxd4± Nc6 8.Qd2 White is slightly better. **8...Bc5N**
[8...f6 9.exf6 Nxf6 10.Nge2 Bb4 11.0-0-0 0-0 12.a3 Ba5 13.Qd3 Bd7 14.h3 a6 15.g4 b5 16.Bc5 Rf7 17.f5 b4 18.fxe6 Bxe6 19.axb4 Bxb4 20.Nf4 Bxc3 21.Qxc3 Ne4 22.Nxe6 Qc8 23.Qe3 1-0 Xu,Y (2502)-Matveeva,S (2428) WWCC 2006 0:14.46-0:00.28 (52)]

(Diagram)



Strongly threatening ...Bxe3. **9.Bxc5 Nxc5 10.Nf3 Qb6 11.0-0-0 Bd7 12.a3**

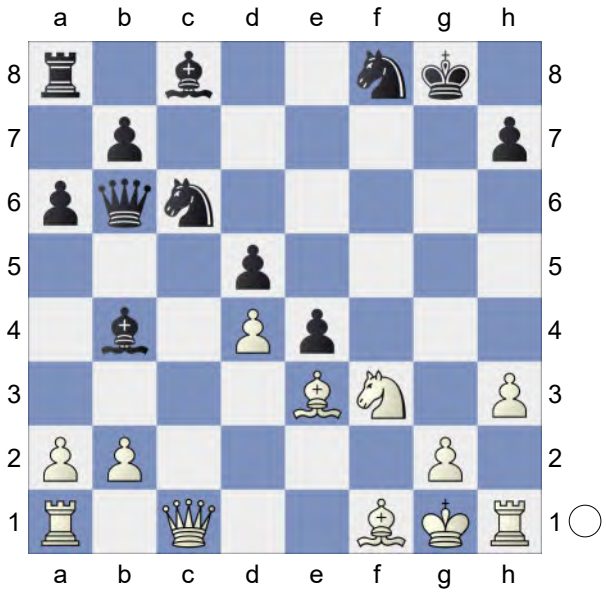


Ne7 13.h4 h5 14.Rh3 a6 15.Kb1 Bc6 16.Qf2 g6 17.Nd4 0-0-0 18.Be2 Kb8 19.Nb3 Na4 20.Qxb6 Nxb6 21.Nd4 Nd7 22.a4 a5 23.Nb3 b6! 24.Nd4 Nc5 25.b3 Bb7 26.Kb2 Ba6 27.Bf3 Kc7 28.Rhh1 Nf5 The position is equal. **29.Ncb5+ Bxb5 30.axb5 Rd7! 31.Nxf5 gxf5 32.Ra1 Ne4 33.Rhd1 Rc8 34.Rd4**
[But not 34.Bxh5 Rh8 35.Be2 Rxh4∓]

34...f6 35.Re1 next exf6 is good for White. **35...fxe5 36.fxe5 Kd8! 37.Bxh5 Rh7! 38.g4 Nf2 39.gxf5 Rxh5 40.fxe6** And now c4! would win. **40...Ke7 41.Rxd5 Rd8 42.Rxd8 Kxd8 43.Rf1 Ne4 44.Rf8+ Ke7 45.Rb8** Weighted Error Value: White=0.05 (flawless) / Black=0.02 (flawless) **45...a4**
½-½

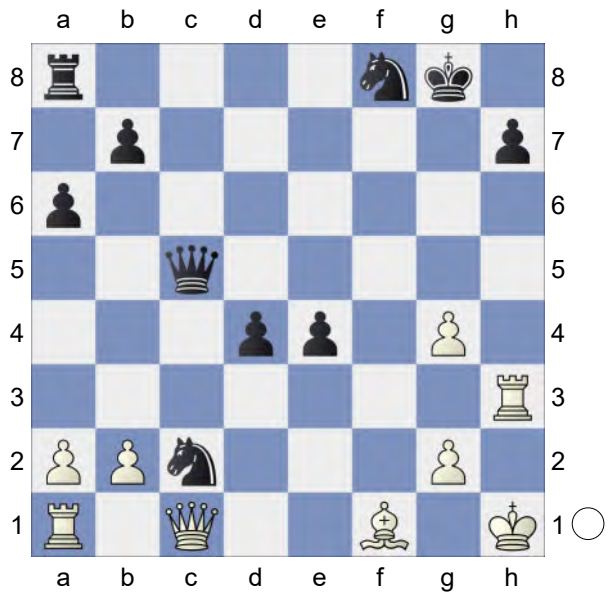
8 **C11**
□ **LCZero 0.31-dag-c93c6a8-BT4-6**
■ **Stockfish dev-20250118-8e3e22**
TCEC 27 Theory Bonus (14.1) 22.01.25
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.Ne2 Be7 9.c3 0-0 10.Kf2N** White is slightly better.
[10.g3 cxd4 11.Nexd4 Nc5 12.Qc2 *(12.Bg2 Bd7 13.0-0 Rc8 14.Kh1 Ne4 15.Nxc6 bxc6 16.c4 a5 17.Qc2 g6 18.Rad1 Nc5 19.Nd4 Qc7 20.g4 Rfd8 21.Qf2 Be8 22.f5 Qxe5 23.fxe6 Nxe6 24.Nxe6 Qxe6 25.Rde1 Qxg4 26.Bd4 Qh4* 0-1 Mu,K (2696)-11... ♕c7 12. ♘bd2 cd4 13.c,4 (2767) NOR-ch Kristiansand 1992 (3)*)* 12...Bd7 13.h4 Nxd4 14.Bxd4 Rc8 15.Bd3 h6 16.g4 Ba4 17.b3 Bb5 18.Bh7+ Kh8 19.Ng5 Ne4 20.Bxe4 dxe4 21.0-0-0 Bd3 22.Rxd3 exd3 23.Qxd3 g6 24.Ne4 Qd5 French-6.♘f3 ♘f6 7.♗e3 a6 Survey 2020 25.Rd1]
[10.Ng3 cxd4 11.Nxd4 Nc5 12.Be2 Bd7 13.0-0 Nxd4 14.Bxd4 Rc8 15.Qd2 g6 16.Bd1 f5 17.exf6 Bxf6 18.Bc2 Qb6 19.Rab1 Bxd4+ 20.cxd4 Na4 21.Bb3 a5 22.Nh1 Qd6 23.Qxa5 Nb6 24.Rbd1 Nc4 ½-½ Carlos,S (2494)-Hintikka,E (2441) 125/42 Biel 2015 (4)]
10...Qb6 11.Qd2 f6 12.Kg1 cxd4 13.cxd4 Bb4 14.Qc1 g5 15.h3
[But not 15.fxg5 fxe5 16.dxe5 Qd8]
15...gxf4! 16.Nxf4 fxe5 17.Nxe6 e4 18.Nxf8 Nxf8

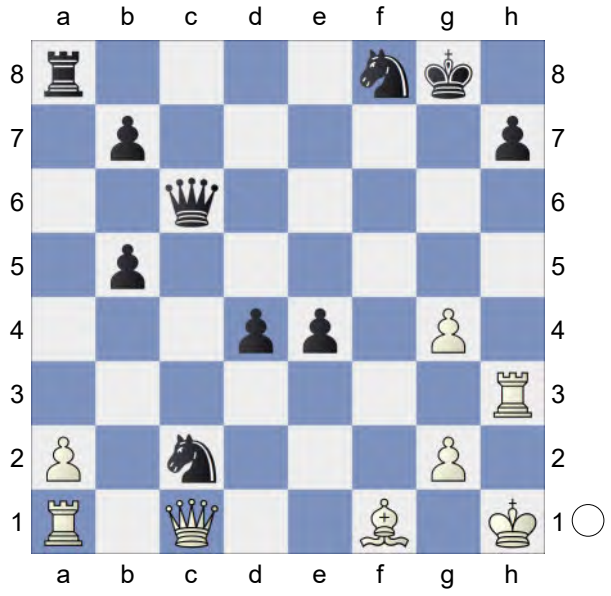


19.Ne5 0.33/17
[19.a3!± 0.75/22]
19...Nxd4± 20.Ng4 Bxg4 21.hxg4 Bc5! 22.Rh3! Nc2 Discovered Attack, Double Attack **23.Bxc5 Qxc5+ 24.Kh1** Really sharp! **24...d4!**

(Diagram)



25.b4! Qc6 26.b5 Deflection **26...axb5**



27.Bxb5! Qxb5 28.Qxc2 d3 29.Qd2 0.01/19
[29.Qc3± 0.99/20]
29...Ng6!= 30.Rh5 0.07/20
[30.a4± 0.43/22 Rxa4 31.Rf1]
30...Qd7 31.Qe3 Qe7 The position is equal. **32.Rd1 Rf8 33.Rg5** Rxd3! is the strong threat. **33...Qf6 34.g3**
[34.Qc5 seems wilder. Qf4 35.Qd5+ Kh8 36.Rf5]
34...Qc6 Wards off Rd5 **35.Rf5 Rxf5 36.gxf5 Qd5** White must now prevent ... Ne5. **37.Re1 Qxf5 38.g4**
[38.Kg2!? Ne7□ 39.Kg1= *(39.Qxe4 d2=)*]
38...Qxg4 39.Qxe4 Weighted Error Value: White=0.10 (very precise) / Black=0.02 (flawless) **39...h5** 0.68/30
[39...Qh5+= 0.01/21 40.Kg1 Qc5+ 41.Kg2 b6]
½-½

9 **C11**
□ **LCZero 0.31-dag-c93c6a8-BT4-6**
■ **Berserk 20250113** **0**
TCEC 27 Theory Bonus B (15.2) 27.1.25
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 Illescas Cordoba,M: 'Inf 88/260' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 a6 7.Ne2 Be7**
[7...Nc6 8.c3 b5 9.a3 c4 10.g4 h5 11.gxh5 Rxh5 12.f5 exf5 13.Nf4 Rh8 14.Qe2 Nb6 15.Rg1 Ra7 16.h4 Na8 17.e6 Bxe6 18.Nxe6 fxe6 19.Rg6 Nc7 20.Bf4 Bd6 21.Qh2 Bxf4 22.Qxf4 0-1 4.d4 ♘f6 5. ♗c4_43147 (2803)-Coll Sola,J (2702) Deutschland 80/340 2000 (1)]
8.c3 Nc6 9.Be3N White is slightly better.
[9.g3 b5 *(9...cxd4 10.cxd4 b5 11.Bh3 Nb6 12.0-0 Bd7 13.Ne1 Rc8 14.b3 a5 15.Be3 Nb4 16.Nc1 0-0 17.Ncd3 Nxd3 18.Nxd3 b4 19.Qd2 Bb5 20.Rfc1 Rxc1+ 21.Rxc1 Nc8 22.f5 exf5 23.Bxf5 Bd7 24.Bxd7* 1-0 Illescas Cordoba,M (2599)-Gurevich,M (2635) Espana 88/260 2003 *)* 10.Bh3 Nb6 11.0-0 Bd7 12.Ne1 Qc7 13.b3 c4 14.f5 0-0-0 15.Be3 exf5 16.Bxf5 Bxf5 17.Rxf5 Rhf8 18.Ng2 Qd7 19.Qc2 f6 20.exf6

Bxf6 21.Raf1 Qe7 22.g4 g6 23.R5f3 Bg7 1-0 Cahours,P (2150)-Colnel,P (2060) FRA-chT2b 0304 2003 (10) 24.Ng3 Rxf3 25.Rxf3 Rf8 26.Qf2 Rxf3 27.Qxf3 Qf6 28.Nf4 cxb3 29.axb3 Na5 30.g5 Qc6 31.b4 Nac4 32.Bc1 Bh8 33.Nd3 Bg7 34.Nc5 Na4 35.Qf7 Nxc5 36.bxc5 Qd7 37.Qg8+ Kb7 38.Bf4 a5 0-1 Caillot,A (1561)-Abergel,T (2471) Sautron op qual 19th 2019 (1.1)]

9...0-0 10.Qc2 b5 11.h4 f6 Dodges Ng5 **12.g3 b4 13.Bh3 Kh8** 0.79/18

[13...f5= 0.17/18]

14.0-0 White is more active.

[14.Bxe6?! Ndxe5 15.Ng5 Nf3+ *(15...fxg5 16.hxg5 h6 17.gxh6±)* 16.Kd1 *(16.Nxf3 Bxe6 17.f5 Bf7∓)* 16...Nxg5 *(16...fxg5 17.hxg5 Nxg5 18.fxg5+-)* 17.hxg5 f5 18.Bxc8 Rxc8=]

[14.Ng5!? fxg5 15.hxg5∓]

14...bxc3 15.Qxc3 c4 16.Qd2 0.21/18

[16.Bxe6?! Ndxe5 17.dxe5 *(17.Nxe5 fxe5 18.Bxc8 Bb4∓)* 17...Bxe6=]

[16.f5!± 0.67/18]

16...Qe8= 17.Nc3

[17.Bxe6 Bb4 18.Qc2 Qxe6∓]

17...Rb8 18.Rab1 Nb6 0.57/20

[18...Bd8= 0.20/17 was preferable.]

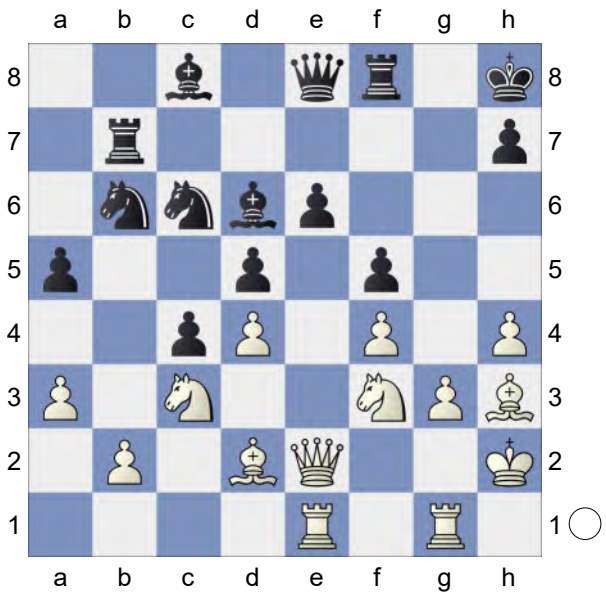
19.Kh2 Rb7 20.Qe2 a5 21.Rg1 Nb4 22.Bd2 Nd3 23.exf6 gxf6 24.Ne1

[24.Bxe6 Bb4 25.Bxc8 *(25.f5 Re7=)* 25...Qxe2+ 26.Nxe2 Nxc8=]

24...Nb4 25.a3 Nc6 26.Nf3 Bd6 27.Rbe1 f5 0.81/18

[27...Rg7= 0.09/19]

(Diagram)



28.Rg2 0.18/17

[White should try 28.g4!± 0.81/18]

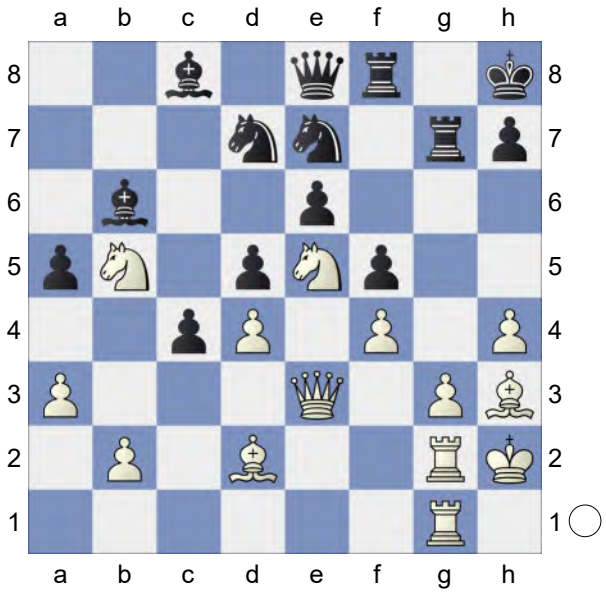
28...Rg7! 29.Ne5 Bc7

[29...Nxd4 30.Qf2 Na4 31.Nxa4± *(31.Qxd4? Bc5∓)*]

30.Qe3 -0.01/19

[30.Be3± 0.35/19]

30...Ne7! 31.Reg1 Nd7 32.Nb5 Bb6



33.Nd6 Qd8 34.Nxd7 Qxd7 35.Nxc8

[35.Qe5? Nc6 36.Nxc4 Nxe5-+ *(36...dxc4? 37.Qe1-+)*]

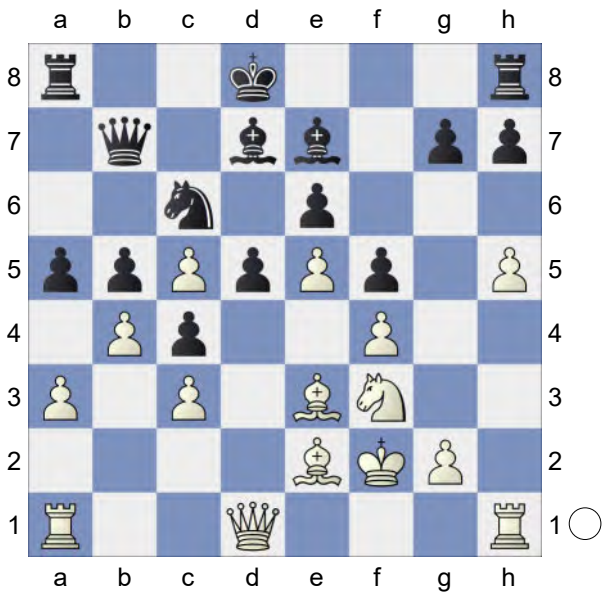
35...Nxc8 The position is equal. **36.Re1 Rf6 37.g4! fxg4 38.Rxg4**

[38.Bxg4 Rfg6 39.Bh3 Rxg2+ 40.Bxg2 Qd8 41.Qxe6 Qxh4+ 42.Qh3]
38...Bc7 Against Qe5 **39.Qg1** Rxg7 is in the air **39...Bxf4+ 40.Bxf4 Rxf4 41.Rxf4**
[41.Rxg7 simplifies Qxg7 42.Rxe6 Qxg1+ 43.Kxg1 Kg7 44.h5]
41...Rxg1 42.Kxg1 Qg7+ 43.Kh2
[43.Kh1 Qg3 44.Rf8+ Kg7 45.Rg1]
43...Qh6 44.Kg3 Qg6+ 45.Bg4 Nd6 46.Rxe6
[46.Rf8+ with more complications. Kg7 47.Rxe6 Qb1 48.Rd8]
46...Qd3+ 47.Bf3
[47.Rf3!? Ne4+□ *(47...Qxd4? 48.Kh3+-)* 48.Kh3=]
47...Ne4+ 48.Kg4⇄ White is fighting back **48...Qxd4** (→ ...Qg7+)
[48...Nf2+ 49.Kh5]
49.Bxe4 dxe4 50.Ref6 Chess con chili.
50...Qd7+
[50...Qxb2? loses. 51.Kg5 Qxa3 52.Kh6+- *(52.Rxe4 Kg7∓; 52.Rf8+ Qxf8 53.Rxf8+ Kg7+-)*]
51.Kg5 Intending Rf7! and mate.
[51.R4f5!?]
51...Qe7 and ...Kg7 should not be overlooked **52.h5** h6 is the strong threat. Weighted Error Value: White=0.09 (flawless) /Black=0.08 (flawless)
52...h6+
½-½

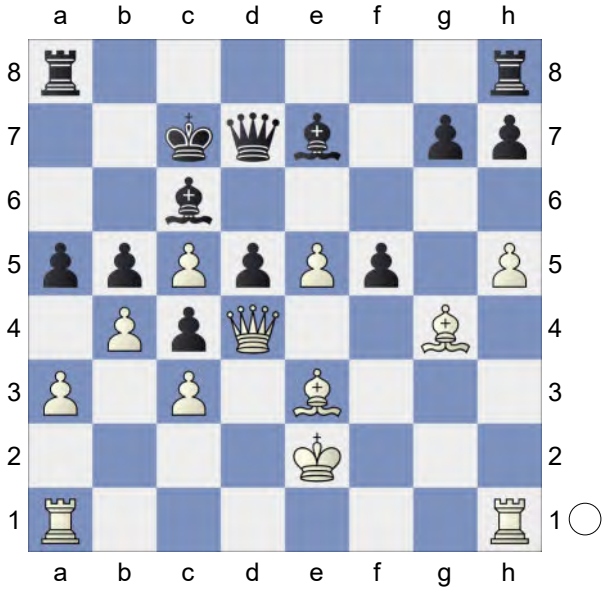
10 **C11**
□ **LCZero 0.31-dag-5107404-T2-52**
■ **Ethereal** **3535**
TCEC 25 Premier 2023 (27.3) 06.09.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Qb6 8.Na4 Qa5+ 9.c3 b6 10.Bd2 c4 11.b4 Qa6** 0.99/19
[Black should play 11...Nxb4!± 0.39/21 12.cxb4 Bxb4]
12.Be2± Be7 13.a3N
[13.0-0 f5 *(13...Nf8 14.Nb2 Qa3 15.Qc2 b5 16.Bc1 Qa6 17.a4 Ng6 18.Be3 Qb7 19.axb5 Qxb5 20.Na4 0-0 21.Rfb1 Nh4 22.Nxh4 Bxh4 23.Nc5 Rb8 24.Bd1 Bd8 25.Qa2 Qb6 26.b5 Na5 27.Rb4 f6 28.exf6* 0-1 Hanel,R (2375)-Hoelzl,F (2350) AUT-chT Austria 1989*)* 14.exf6 Nxf6 15.Nb2 Qb7 16.Qc2 Bd7 17.Ng5 b5 18.a4 a5 19.axb5 Qxb5 20.Rfb1 0-0 21.bxa5 Rxa5 22.Nd1 Qa6 23.Rxa5 Nxa5 24.Nf2 h6 25.Nf3 Nc6 26.Ne5 Nxe5 27.fxe5 Nh7 28.Bg4 0-1 Brkic,A (2621)-Korobov,A (2690) 151/77 Riga 2021 Bg5 29.Bxg5 Nxg5 30.h4 Nh7 31.Qb2 Ra8 32.Nh3 Nf8 33.Nf4 Be8 34.Qb6 Bf7 35.h5 Qa3 36.Qb2 Qxb2 37.Rxb2 Re8 38.Rb6 Re7 39.Rb8 Be8 40.Ng6 Nxg6 41.hxg6 Kf8 42.Kh2 h5 43.Bh3 1-0 Colas Longares,R (2578)-Chapter (2470) 113/108 Rogaska Slatina 2011 (6.5)]
13...f5 White is better. **14.h4 b5 15.Nc5 Nxc5 16.dxc5 Qb7 17.h5 Bd7** 1.24/21
[⌓17...Kd8 0.86/20]
18.Be3 a5 19.Kf2 Kd8

(Diagram)

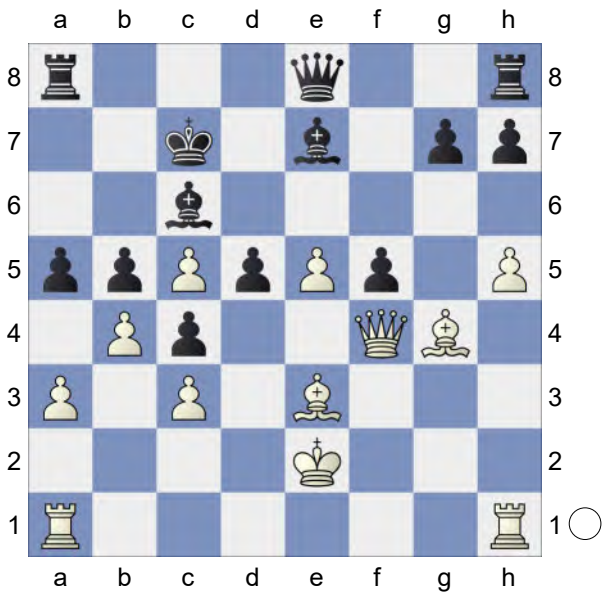


20.g4! fxg4 21.Nd4 Nxd4 22.Qxd4 Bc6 23.Bxg4 Qd7 24.Ke2 0.79/20
[24.f5+- 1.65/19 has better winning chances.]
24...Kc7 25.f5 exf5



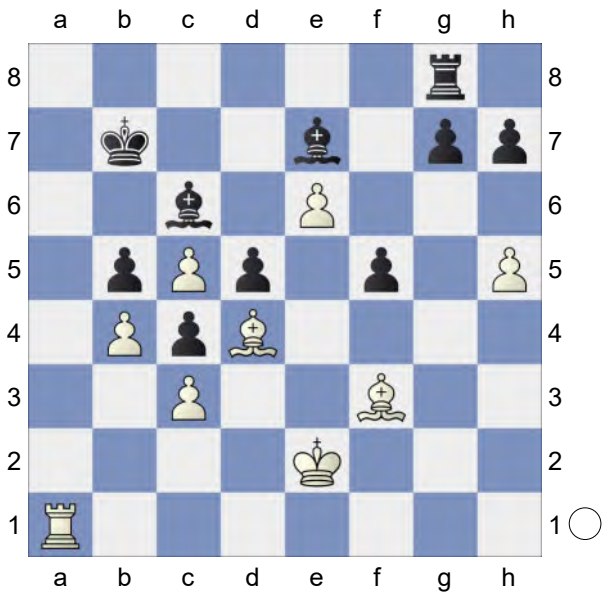
26.Qf4 Qe8
[26...Bg5 27.Qxg5]

(Diagram)

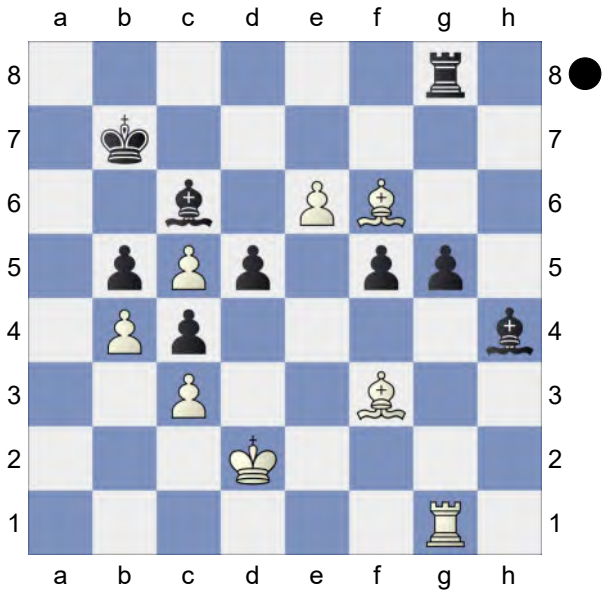


27.Bf3
[27.Bxf5 g6±]
[27.Qxf5 axb4 28.axb4 d4 29.Bxd4 Bxh1∓]
27...axb4! 28.axb4 Rxa1 29.Rxa1 Kb7 30.e6 0.51/21 The board is on fire. White has more active pieces.
[30.Qxf5 Rf8 31.Qh3 *(31.Qxh7? d4-+)* 31...Rxf3 32.Qxf3 d4=]
[30.Qd4± 1.25/18]
30...Qb8!± 31.Qxb8+
[31.Qxf5 Qh2+ 32.Kd1 Rf8∓]
31...Rxb8 32.Bd4 0.31/21
[32.Rg1± 0.71/23 Bf6 33.Kd2]
32...Rg8

(Diagram)



33.Re1 0.28/23
[Reject 33.Ke3 Bg5+ 34.Kf2 g6± *(34...Re8 35.Rg1±)*]
[33.Rh1!± 0.85/20]
33...g5= 34.hxg6! hxg6 35.Kd2 0.14/23
[35.Rh1± 0.60/25 deserves consideration. Kc8 36.Be5]
35...Bh4 36.Rg1 g5! The position is equal. **37.Bf6**



d4! 38.Bxc6+ Kxc6 39.cxd4 Hoping for e7.
[39.Bxd4 Re8 40.Bf6 Rxe6 41.Bxg5 Rg6]
39...f4 And now ...f3 would win. **40.e7 f3 41.Ra1 f2** Weighted Error Value: White=0.17 (very precise) /Black=0.08 (flawless) **42.Ke2**
½-½

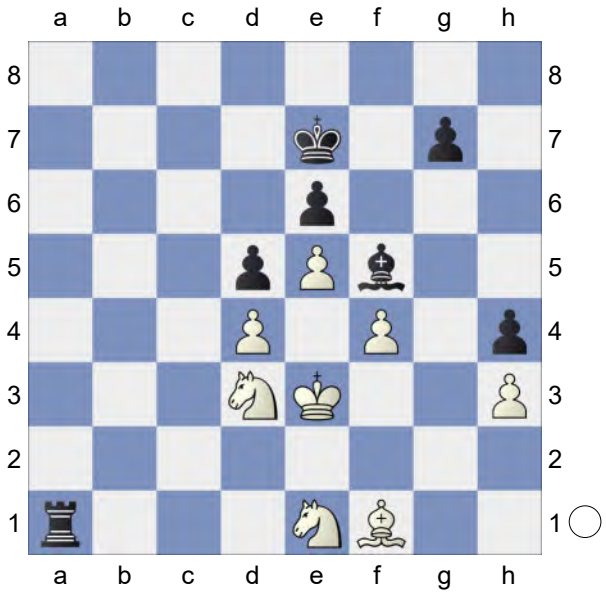
11 **C11**
□ **Stockfish Dev15** **3617**
■ **Komododragon** **3600**
TCEC 22 Superfinal 2022 (44) 13.04.22
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Qb6 8.Na4 Qa5+ 9.c3 b6 10.Bd2 c4 11.b4 Nxb4 12.cxb4 Bxb4 13.Qc2! Bxd2+** White is slightly better. **14.Nxd2 0-0 15.Nc3 b5 16.g3**
[16.Be2 b4 17.Nd1 Qb6 *(17...Nb8 18.0-0 Nc6 19.Nf3 Qb6 20.Qd2 a5 21.Nf2 Bd7 22.Rfd1 Rfc8 23.Ng4 Ne7 24.Ne3 a4 25.Rdc1 Rab8 26.Rab1 Qa5 27.Bd1 Nc6 28.Qf2 b3 29.axb3 axb3 30.Ng4 Qd8 31.Qg3 Kh8 32.Ng5* 0-1 Badenhorst,C (1970)-Liu,Y (2261) Sant Boi de Llobregat op 5th 2024 (4)*)* 18.Nf3 f6 19.exf6 Nxf6 20.Nf2 a5 21.Qd2 a4 22.a3 b3 23.0-0 Ba6 24.Qc3 Rfb8 25.Nd2 Ne8 26.Bg4 Bc8 27.Qe3 Nc7 28.Nf3 Qd6 29.Nd1 b2 30.Rb1 Rb3 0-1 Moiseenko,A (2707)-Nepomniachtchi,I (2714) Yaroslav the Wise rapid 5th 2014 (10)]
16...b4 17.Ne2 Nb6N 0.71/17
[17...Qb6= 0.17/16 18.Bh3 a5 19.0-0 a4 20.Rab1 Nb8 21.f5 Nc6 22.Nf3 b3 23.f6 Qb4 24.Qc1 Rd8 25.fxg7 Kxg7 26.Ng5 Ra7 27.Qf4 Qe7 28.Qg4 Rg8 29.Nxf7+

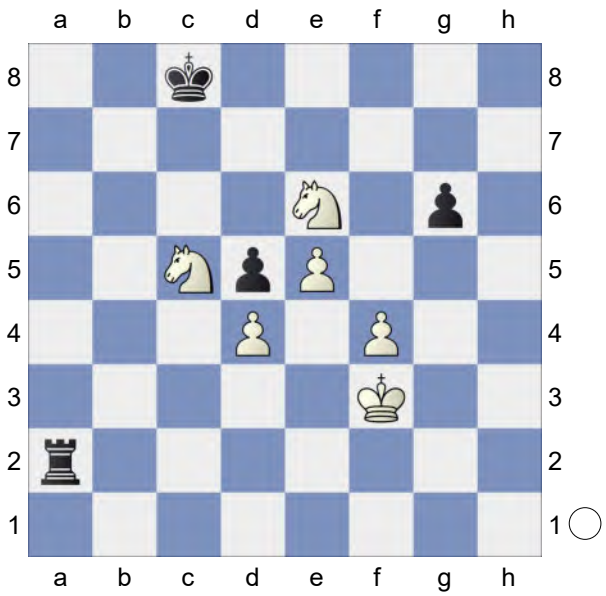
1-0 Lindberg,B (2382)-Okoth,J (2274) Interzonal Manila 1990 (4.3)]

18.Bh3!± Qa4 19.Qc1 Qb5 0.97/17
[19...c3= 0.15/17 20.Nb3 Qb5]
20.Rb1! Bd7 1.02/19
[20...Na4± 0.33/16]
21.0-0! Rac8 22.Rf2 c3 23.Nb3 Nc4 1.69/19
[23...a5± 0.82/19]
24.g4+- Nb2 1.69/22
[24...Kh8± 1.11/16]
25.Rxb2 cxb2 26.Qxb2 Qd3 27.Bf1 Rc2 28.Ng3 Rxb2 29.Bxd3 Rxf2 30.Kxf2 Rb8 31.Ne2! Ba4 1.85/21
[31...Bb5± 1.05/20 32.Bxb5 Rxb5]
32.Nec1! a5 33.Nc5 Bd1 34.h3 h5 35.g5 h4 36.g6! a4 37.Ke1 Bf3 38.Nxa4 Bg2 39.Bf1
[39.gxf7+?! Kxf7 40.Bf1 Bxf1 41.Kxf1 g5]
39...Be4 40.gxf7+ Kxf7 41.Nc5 Bf5 42.N1d3 Rb5 3.17/24
[42...Kg6 2.08/26 43.Kf2 *(43.Na6 b3=)* 43...Kh6]
43.Kf2 Ra5 44.Nxb4 Ra3 45.Ncd3! Ra4 46.Ke3 Ke7? 4.74/25
[46...Kg6 2.22/24 was worth a try. 47.Kd2 *(47.Nc6 Kf7±)* 47...Kh6]
47.Nc2
[Worse is 47.Nc6+ Kf8±]
47...Rxa2 48.Nce1 Ra1

(Diagram)

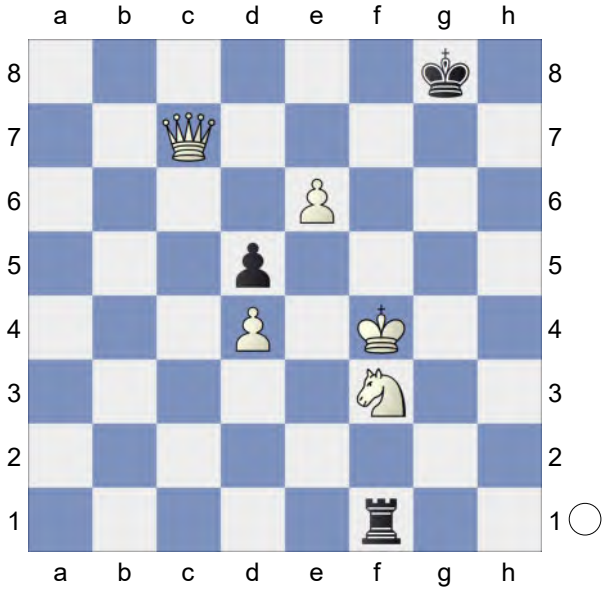


49.Be2 Bxh3 50.Nf3 Ra5 6.02/24
[⌓50...Ra3 3.83/23 51.Nxh4 Kf7 52.Bh5+ Kg8]
51.Nc5 Bf5 White must now prevent ... h3. **52.Nxh4 g6** 8.12/26
[⌓52...Ra3+ 5.07/23 53.Kf2 Bh7]
53.Bd3 Ra3 54.Nf3 Kf8 55.Ng5 Ke7 56.Kd2 Bxd3 57.Nxd3 Ra4 58.Nf3 Ra3 59.Ke2 Ra2+ 60.Ke3 and Nc5 would now be decisive **60...Ra1 61.Nc5 Ra3+ 62.Kf2 Ke8 63.Ng5 Ra2+ 64.Kf3 Kd8 65.Ngxe6+ Kc8**



66.f5! Ra3+

[66...gxf5 67.Ng7]
67.Kf4 g5+ 68.Nxg5 Ra1 69.f6 White threatens f7 and mate. **69...Kd8 70.Nce6+ Kd7 71.f7 Rf1+ 72.Nf3 Kxe6 73.f8Q Kd7 74.Qd6+ Ke8 75.Qc7 Kf8 76.e6 Kg8**



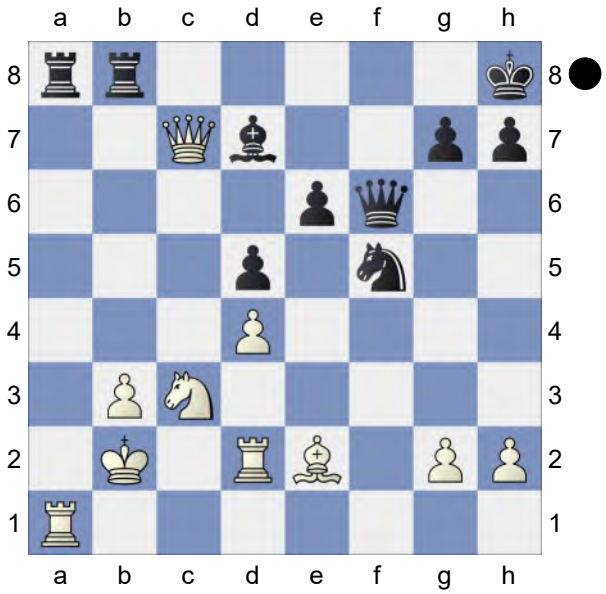
77.Kf5 32.41/13 **Rxf3+ 78.Kg6 Rg3+** Weighted Error Value: White=0.08 (flawless) /Black=0.52 **79.Qxg3**
1-0

12 **C11**
□ **Stockfish Dev15** **3617**
■ **Komododragon** **3600**
TCEC 22 Superfinal 2022 (14) 08.04.22
[Kitty Kat]

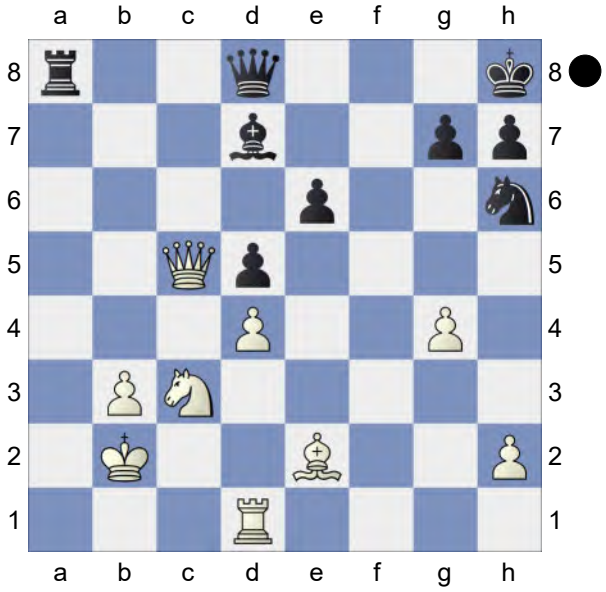
C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Be7 8.a3 0-0 9.Qd2**
[9.dxc5 Bxc5 10.Bxc5 Nxc5 11.b4 Nd7 12.Bd3 h6 13.0-0 a5 14.b5 Ne7 15.Na4 b6 16.c3 Bb7 17.Bc2 Rc8 18.Qd3 g6 19.Rad1 h5 20.Qe3 Kg7 21.h3 Rh8 22.Qf2 Nc5 23.Nxc5 Rxc5 ½-½ Cardona,J (2104)-Laudati,L (2054) corr 234. NEC F-00001 2024]
9...b6 10.0-0-0N -1.08/17
[10.h4± 0.46/16 stays ahead.]
[10.g3 Kh8 11.h4 f6 12.exf6 Nxf6 13.Bh3 Bd7 14.Rd1 cxd4 15.Nxd4 e5 16.Nxc6 Bxc6 17.fxe5 d4 18.exf6 Bxf6 19.0-0 dxc3 20.Qxd8 Raxd8 21.Rxd8 Rxd8 22.b3 Re8 23.Bf2 Be4 24.Re1 Re7 1-0 Fedorchuk,S (2655)-Michiels,B (2461) BEL-chT 0910 2009 (11) 25.Rc1 h5 26.Bg2 Bf5 27.Bf3 g6 28.a4 Kh7 29.b4 g5 30.a5 g4 31.axb6 axb6 32.Bc6 Re2 33.Bxb6 Be5 34.b5 Kg7 35.Ba5 Rxc2 36.Rxc2 Bxc2 37.Kf2 Bd3 38.Ke3 Bg6 39.Be4 c2 0-1 Kavakul,M (2765)-Molina,R (2823) 1883-4 corr (5) 40.Bd2 Bxg3 41.Bxg6 Kxg6 42.Kd3 Bf2 43.Kxc2 g3 44.Bf4 g2 45.Bh2 Kf5 ½-½ Tal,M-Geller,E October Revolution 50years 1967 (10)]
10...c4!∓ 11.f5 b5! 12.Qe1 -1.39/18
[⌓12.f6 -0.72/17 gxf6 13.Nxb5]
12...Rb8 -0.61/17
[12...exf5 13.Nxd5 Re8 14.Kb1±]
[12...b4 13.axb4 Nxb4 14.f6 gxf6 15.Bh6∓]
[12...Kh8∓ -1.39/18]
13.Qg3!∓ Kh8 14.Ng5 Bxg5! 15.Bxg5 Qb6 16.Ne2! f6 17.exf6 Nxf6 18.Qd6! Rd8 19.Qc5 -1.20/22
[19.Qf4!∓ -0.61/22]
19...Qa6!∓
[19...exf5?! 20.Bxf6 gxf6 21.Nf4=]
20.Nc3 Qb7
[20...exf5 21.Bxf6 gxf6 22.Nxd5±]
[20...b4?! 21.axb4 Rxb4 *(21...exf5? 22.Bxf6 gxf6 23.b5+-)* 22.Bxf6 gxf6 23.Be2∓]
21.b4 -1.59/23
[⌓21.Re1 -0.78/20 b4 22.axb4 Nxb4 23.Re2 *(23.fxe6? Nxc2 24.b4*

Nxe1-+)]
21...cxb3 22.cxb3 -1.39/21
[Better is 22.Bxb5 -1.03/21 Na5 23.h3]
22...b4
[22...exf5?! 23.Bxf6 *(23.Bxb5 Na5=)* 23...gxf6 24.Kb2∓ *(24.Nxd5? Be6-+; 24.Nxb5 a6∓; 24.Bxb5 Na5=)*]
23.axb4 Nxb4
[23...exf5 24.b5 Na5 25.Kb2+-]
24.Rd2 Wards off Na2+ **24...a5 25.Be2 Qf7** -0.50/21
[25...exf5-+ -1.75/19 and ...Be6 would now be decisive 26.Bxf6 gxf6]
26.Kb2∓ Bd7
[26...exf5 27.Qxa5 Bd7 28.Rc1=]
27.Qxa5 Rdc8
[27...exf5 28.Bf4=]
28.Rc1! Nc6 Black has strong compensation. A dynamic duo of knights. **29.Qc5 Ne7! 30.Qa7 Ra8!**
[30...Nxf5 31.Bxf6 Ra8 *(31...gxf6 32.Nb5∓)* 32.Qb7 gxf6 33.Na4= *(33.Bb5? Qf8-+)*]
31.Qb7 Rcb8
[31...Nxf5 32.Bxf6 gxf6 33.Na4= *(33.Bb5? Qf8-+)*]
32.Qc7 Nxf5 33.Bxf6! Remove Defender **33...Qxf6**
[33...gxf6 34.Na4 Rc8 35.Qb7=]
34.Ra1!

(Diagram)



Qg5 -0.40/21
[Black should play 34...Be8!∓ -0.88/22 35.Rxa8 Rxa8]
35.Rd3 Qe7 36.Rxa8 Rxa8 37.Qc5 Qd8! 38.g4 Nh6 -0.27/19
[38...Rc8∓ -0.76/20 39.Qa3 Nh4]
39.Rd1=



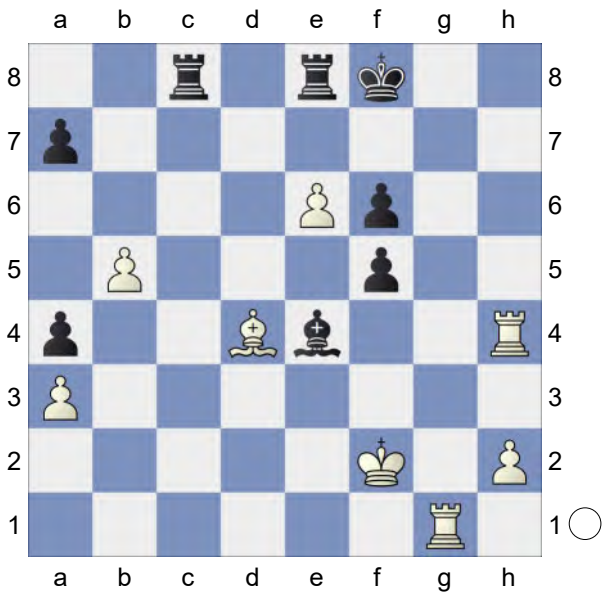
Nf7 -0.01/20
[39...Kg8!∓ -0.71/19]
40.h4! Rc8 41.Qa7 h6
[41...Nd6 with more complications. 42.Rf1 Kg8 43.Ra1 Be8]
42.Ra1 Be8 43.Qa6 Active counter

play! **43...Bc6 44.Bd3** The position is equal. **44...Nd6 45.Rc1** Black must now prevent Nxd5!. **45...Bb7**
[45...Qxh4? perishes. 46.Ne2 Qxg4 *(46...Qh3? 47.Rc3+-)* 47.Rxc6 Rxc6 48.Qxc6+-]
46.Qa3 Weighted Error Value: White=0.12 (very precise) /Black=0.13 (very precise) **46...Ra8**
½-½

13 **C11**
□ **Stockfish Dev Da50** **3607**
■ **Ethereal** **3532**
TCEC 24 Premier 2023 (4.1) 17.03.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Qb6 8.Na4 Qa5+ 9.c3 cxd4 10.b4 Qc7 11.Nxd4 Be7 12.Bd3 Nxd4** White is better. **13.Bxd4 Nb8 14.Rc1 Nc6 15.Bf2 b6 16.0-0 0-0N 17.a3 Bb7** 1.26/18
[⩲17...g6 0.78/20]
18.c4!± dxc4 19.Rxc4 b5 20.Rc3→ White has strong attack.
[20.Qh5? g6 *(20...bxc4 21.Qxh7#)* 21.Qe2 bxc4-+]
20...bxa4 21.b5! White has more active pieces. **21...Qa5?** 2.40/27
[21...Rfc8= 0.09/22 and Black has nothing to worry.]
22.Bxh7+!+- Decoy **22...Kxh7 23.Rh3+ Kg8 24.f5 Bg5**
[24...Nxe5 25.Qh5]
25.Qh5 Repels exf5 **25...Bh6**
[25...Qxb5 26.Qh8#]
26.f6 Against Ne7 **26...Nd4**
[26...Qxb5? 27.fxg7+-]
27.fxg7! Nf5
[27...Nxb5 28.Qxh6 *(28.gxf8R+ Kxf8 29.Bc5+ Ke8 30.Qxf7+ Kd8 31.Rxh6 Kc8 32.Rh8+ Qd8 33.Rxd8+* Back Rank *Kxd8 34.Qe7+ Kc8 35.Rf8#)* 28...f5 29.gxf8Q+ Rxf8 30.Qh7#]
28.g4 Rfe8 2.62/25
[28...Rfc8 1.94/24 29.gxf5 Qd2 30.fxe6 *(30.Qxh6 Qxh6 31.Rxh6 exf5±)* 30...fxe6 *(30...Qg5+? 31.Qxg5 Bxg5 32.exf7+ Kxg7 33.e6+-)* 31.Qxh6 Qxh6 32.Rxh6 Be4 33.Rxe6 Kxg7 34.Re7+ Kg8]
29.gxf5 Qd2 30.Qxh6 Qxh6 31.Rxh6 Kxg7 32.Rh4
[32.Be3 exf5 33.Rh3 *(33.Rxf5 Be4±)* 33...f6±]
32...exf5 33.Bd4
[33.Rxa4 a6±]
33...Be4 34.e6+! f6 35.Kf2! Threatening mate with Rg1+. **35...Rac8**
[35...Rxe6? 36.Rg1+ Kf8 37.Rh8+ Ke7 38.Bc5+ Rd6 39.Rxa8 *(39.Bxd6+ Kxd6 40.Rxa8 Bxa8+-; 39.Rg7+ Ke6+-)* 39...Bxa8 40.Rd1+- *(40.Bxd6+ Kxd6 41.h4 f4+-)*]
36.Rg1+
[36.Bxa7 Rc2+ *(36...Rxe6? 37.Rg1+ Kf8 38.Rh8+* Skewer *Kf7 39.Rxc8+-)* 37.Ke3 Rxe6=]
36...Kf8

(Diagram)



37.Bc5+ Rxc5 38.Rh8+ Ke7 39.Rg7+ Skewer **39...Kxe6 40.Rxe8+** Endgame KRR-KRB **40...Kd6 41.Rxa7 Rxb5 42.Rxa4 Rb2+ 43.Kg3! Kc5** Repels Rd4 **44.Rc8+ Kd6 45.Rd8+ Ke7 46.Rh8 Kf7 47.Ra7+ Ke6 48.Re8+ Kd6 49.Rd8+ Ke6 50.Re8+?** -0.01/22

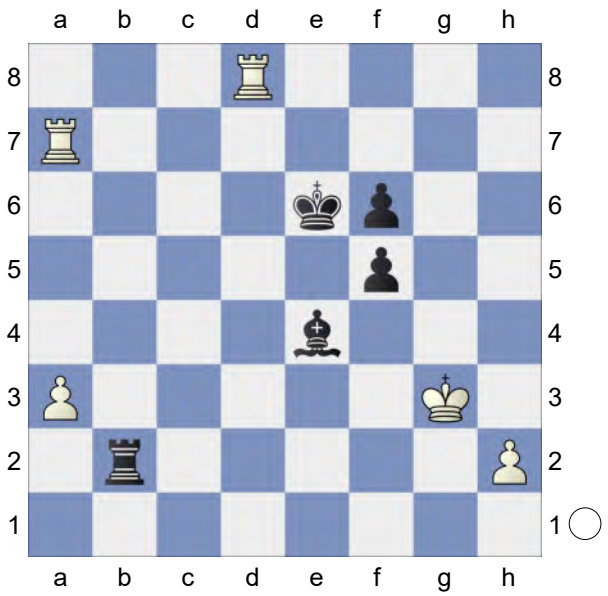
[50.Ra6+!+- 2.79/24 Ke5 51.Re8+ Kd5 52.Rd8+ *(52.Rxf6 Rg2+ 53.Kf4 Rf2+ 54.Kg5 Rg2+ 55.Kf4 Rf2+ 56.Kg5 Rg2+ 57.Kf4±)* 52...Ke5]

50...Kd6= 51.Rd8+? -0.01/20

[51.Ra6++- 2.22/24 Kd5 52.Rxf6]

51...Ke6

(Diagram)



52.Ra6+! Ke5 53.Ra5+ Ke6 54.Rh8 Kf7 55.Ra7+? -0.01/26

[55.Rh7++- 3.05/22 Kg6 56.Raa7 Rb3+ 57.Kh4]

55...Ke6! 56.Ra5? -0.01/21

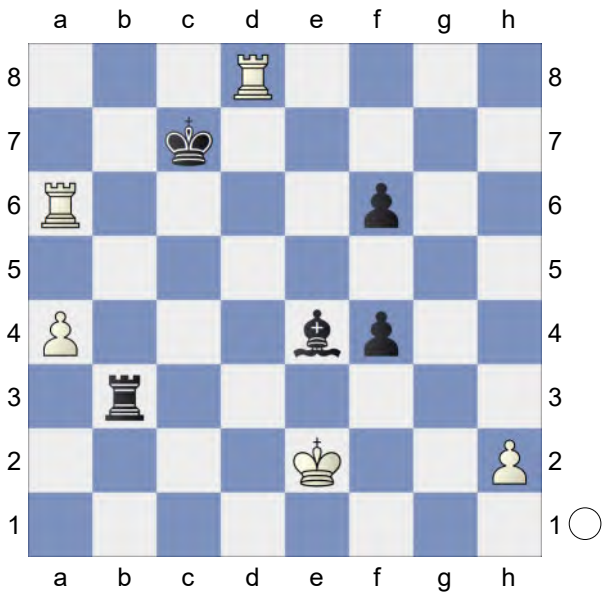
[White should try 56.Ra6++- 2.23/22 Ke5 57.Re8+ Kd5 58.Ra5+ *(58.Rxf6 Rb3+ 59.Kf4 Rf3+ 60.Kg5 Rxa3±)* 58...Kd4 59.h3]

56...Kf7! 57.Rh7+ Ke6 58.Kf4 Rf2+ 59.Ke3 Rf3+ 60.Ke2 Rb3 61.Rh8 Kd6 62.a4 f4? 4.21/26

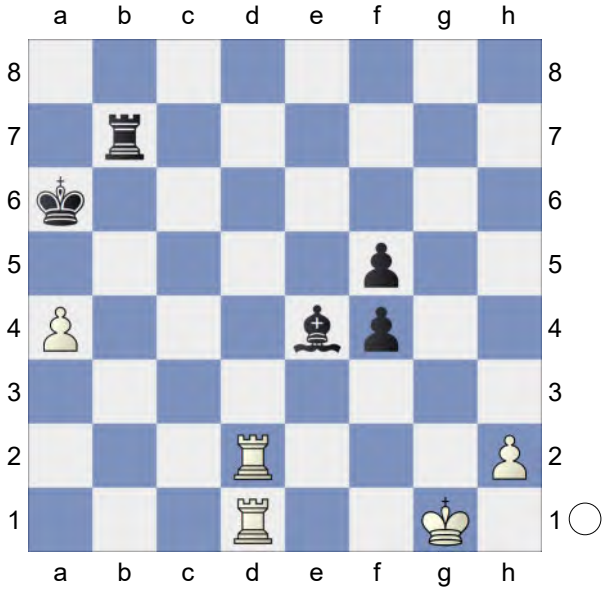
[62...Rc3 2.61/19 keeps fighting. 63.Rb8 Rc2+ 64.Ke3 Rxh2 65.Rb6+ Skewer Kc7 66.Rxf6 Rh3+ 67.Kd4 Rd3+ 68.Kc4 Rd7 69.Rc5+ Kb7]

63.Ra6++- Ke7 64.Ra7+ Kd6 aiming for ...f3+. **65.Rd8+ Kc6 66.Ra6+ Kc7**

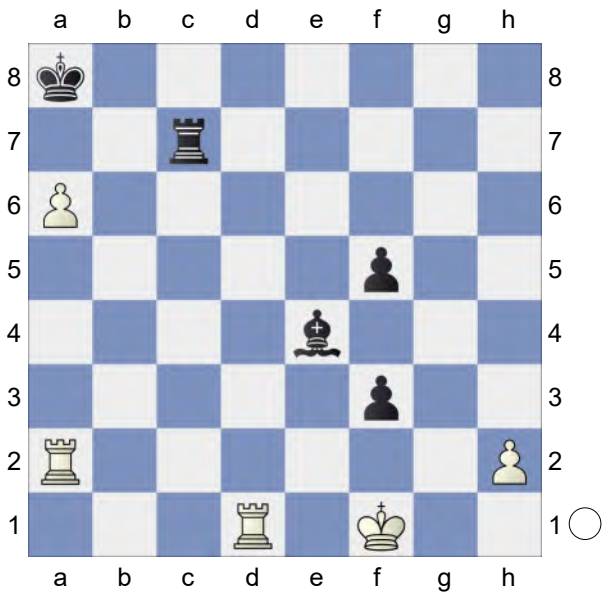
(Diagram)



67.Rd2! f5 68.Rad6 2.12/25
[⌓68.Rh6 4.39/23]
68...Rh3 69.Kf1 Ra3? 4.69/25
[69...Rxh2 1.71/27 70.Rd7+ Kc6 71.Rxh2 Kxd7]
70.Kg1 Kb7 71.R6d4 Ka6 72.Rd1 Rb3 73.R4d2 Rb7



74.a5! f3
[74...Rg7+ 75.Kf1]
75.Ra2 Ka7 76.Kf1 Rc7 77.a6 Ka8 9.83/19
[⌓77...f4 5.09/19 78.Rb2 Bc6]



78.a7! Rc8 Inhibits Rd8. **79.Rb2 Rc7 80.Ra1 Bd3+ 81.Kf2 Rc8** Prevents Rb8+. **82.h4** h5! is the strong threat. **82...Bc4 83.h5 f4 84.h6 Bd3 85.Kxf3 Rd8 86.Rb8+** Promotion **86...Rxb8 87.axb8N+** White mates. **87...Kb7 88.Nd7 Bh7** Weighted Error Value: White=0.30/Black=0.17 (very precise)
89.Kxf4
1-0

14 **C11**
□ **Komododragon** **3600**
■ **Stockfish Dev15** **3617**
TCEC 22 Superfinal 2022 (43) 13.04.22
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Qb6 8.Na4 Qa5+ 9.c3 b6 10.Bd2 c4 11.b4 Nxb4 12.cxb4 Bxb4 13.Qc2 Bxd2+** White is slightly better. **14.Nxd2 b5 15.Nc3 b4** 0.86/24
[15...0-0± 0.45/24]
16.Ne2 0.21/20
[16.Nce4!± 0.86/24]

[16.Nd1 Qb6 17.Nf3 0-0 18.a3 b3 19.Qd2 f6 20.h4 Nb8 21.h5 a5 22.h6 Ra7 23.Nc3 Nc6 24.Rd1 Raf7 25.exf6 gxf6 26.g3 Kh8 27.Bh3 Qd8 28.Kf2 Qd6 29.Rhe1 f5 30.Qb2 Rf6 1-0 Caruana,F (2819)-Vachier Lagrave,M (2779) Norway Chess 7th_12839 2019 (2)]

16...Rb8N 0.82/21

[16...0-0!= 0.21/20]

[16...Qb6 17.Nf3 *(17.g3 a5 18.Bh3 g6 19.0-0 Ba6 20.g4 h5 21.Nf3 c3 22.gxh5 Rxh5 23.Bg4 Rh8 24.Rad1 a4 25.Rf2 Bxe2 26.Rxe2 Ke7 27.Rb1 Rhc8 28.Kg2 Rc4 29.Ree1 Nb8 30.h4 Nc6 31.Red1 Nxd4* 0-1 Harada,A (1684)-Do Carmo,G (2008) Cacoal op 2025 (2)*)* 17...Nb8 18.h4 Nc6 19.Qd2 a5 20.g4 2 Chapter 6-7...Qb6 with 9...b6 French for White 2024]

[16...Nb8 17.h4 Nc6 18.Kf2 Qb6 19.Nf3 f6 20.exf6 gxf6 21.Qd2 e5 22.fxe5 fxe5 23.Qg5 Rf8 24.Qh5+ Rf7 25.Nf4 Kf8 26.Nxd5 Qxd4+ 27.Ne3 Qb2+ 28.Be2 Nd4 29.Rae1 Be6 30.Qxe5 Re8 31.Nd1 1-0 Pranav,V (2579)-Krstulovic,A (2433) EU-Cup 38th Durres 2023 (3.4)]

17.g3!± Qa3 0.94/22

[17...Ba6= 0.28/20]

18.Bh3 g6 1.19/21

[18...Ba6!± 0.51/20]

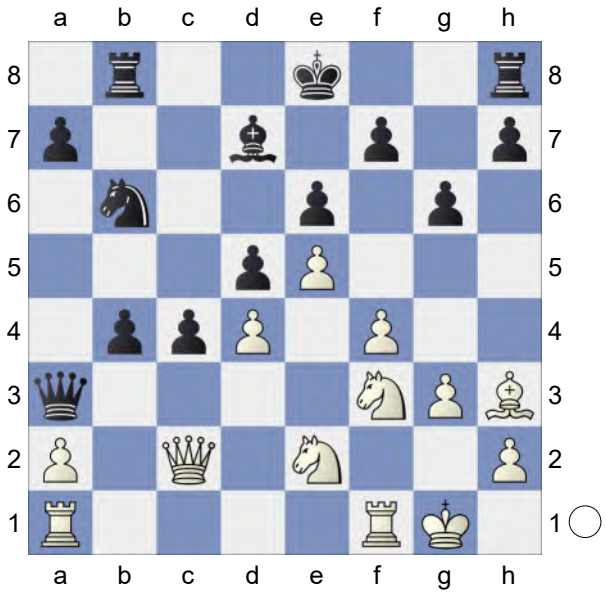
19.0-0 Nb6 20.Nf3 0.72/20

[White should try 20.Rf3 1.12/21 c3 21.Nxc3 bxc3 22.Qxc3 *(22.Rxc3 Qb4±)*]

20...Bd7 1.51/22

[Black should play 20...Qe3+ 0.72/20 21.Rf2 Bd7]

(Diagram)



21.f5! gxf5 22.Qd2 Wards off Qe3+

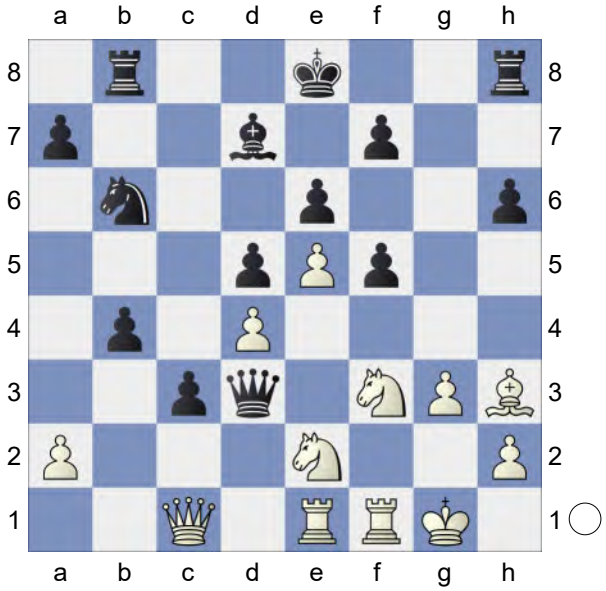
22...h6 1.39/23 Inhibits Qg5.

[⌓22...c3 0.73/20 23.Qd3 Nc4]

23.Qf4 Qd3 1.88/22

[23...Rc8± 1.06/21]

24.Rae1+- Qe4 25.Qd2 c3 26.Qc1 Qd3



27.Rf2! Kd8 1.82/23

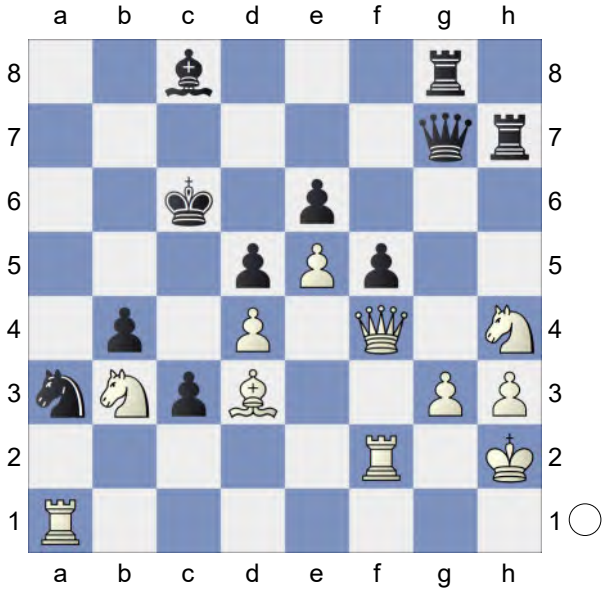
[27...Rc8± 1.14/20]

28.Bf1 Qc4 29.Qf4 Qc6 2.31/22

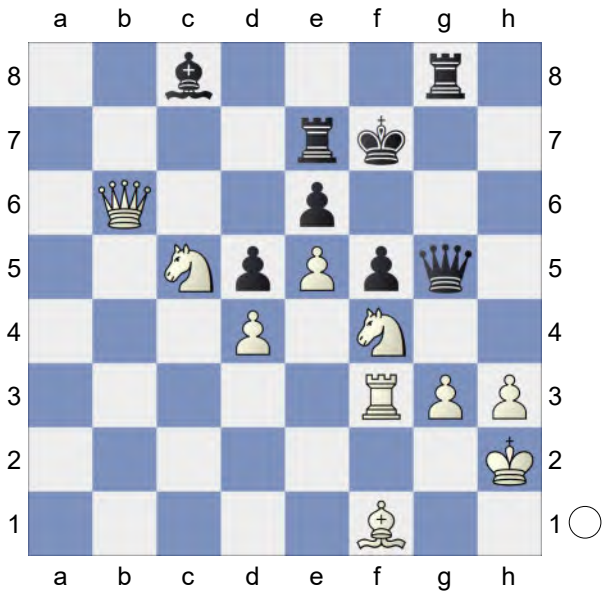
[29...Qc8± 1.45/21]

30.Qh4+ Kc7 31.Qe7 a5 32.Qxf7 Nc4 2.23/22

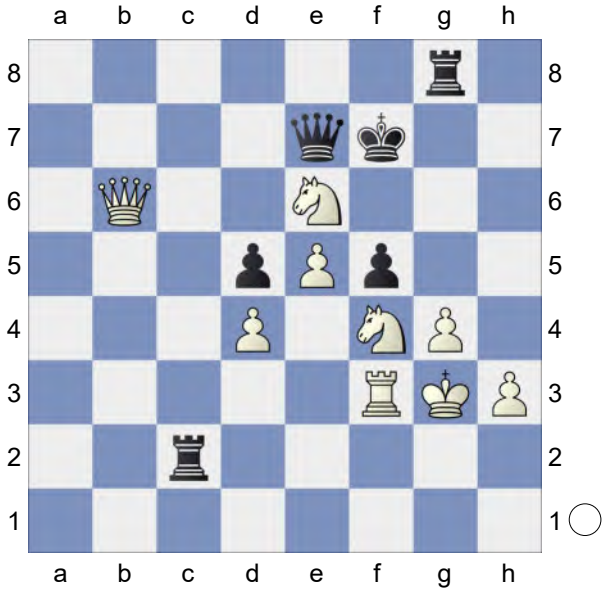
[32...Rbf8 1.81/21 33.Qh5 Nc4]
33.Nf4 Rbf8 34.Qg6 Rfg8 35.Qf6 Rf8 36.Qh4 Rh7 37.h3 Re8 2.30/18
[37...Kb6 1.82/18 might work better. 38.Rc1 Ne3]
38.Nd3 Rg8 39.Kh2 Kb8 2.25/18
[⏢39...Kb6 1.61/16 40.Nc5 Rhg7]
40.Nc5 Bc8 2.36/17
[⏢40...Rhg7 1.93/18 41.Rg2 *(41.Qxh6 Rg6+-; 41.Nxd7+ Qxd7 42.Rg2 Rh8=)* 41...Rg6]
41.Bd3 Rhg7 2.77/21
[⏢41...h5 1.82/18 42.Rg1 Qc7]
42.Rg1
[Not 42.Qxh6 Rg6 43.Qf4 Rxg3±]
42...Qc7 43.Qxh6 Rh7 44.Qc1 Qg7 White must now prevent ...Qg4. **45.Qf4 Na3** 3.46/18
[⏢45...Ka7 2.31/17 46.Re2 Rh5]
46.Nb3 Nc4 47.a3 Deflection **47...Nxa3 48.Nxa5 Kc7** Dodges Nc6 **49.Nb3 Rhh8 50.Nh4 Kc6 51.Ra1 Rh7** 7.65/21
[⏢51...Qh6 4.01/20 52.Qxh6 Rxh6]



52.Rxa3! bxa3 53.Rc2 Kb6 54.Rxc3 a2 55.Qf2 Qg5 56.Bf1
[56.Qxa2? is a self mate. Qxg3+ 57.Kh1 Qg1#]
56...Rc7 57.Rf3 Kc6 58.Qxa2 Kd7 59.Ng2 Ke8 60.Nc5 Qc1 61.Qb3 Re7 62.Qb6 Black must now prevent Bb5+. **62...Qg5 63.Nf4 Kf7**



64.g4! Ree8
[64...Kg7 65.Nfxe6+]
65.Bb5 Re7 66.Ba6 Ree8 67.Bxc8 Remove Defender **67...Rxc8 68.Ncxe6 Rc2+ 69.Kg3 Qe7**

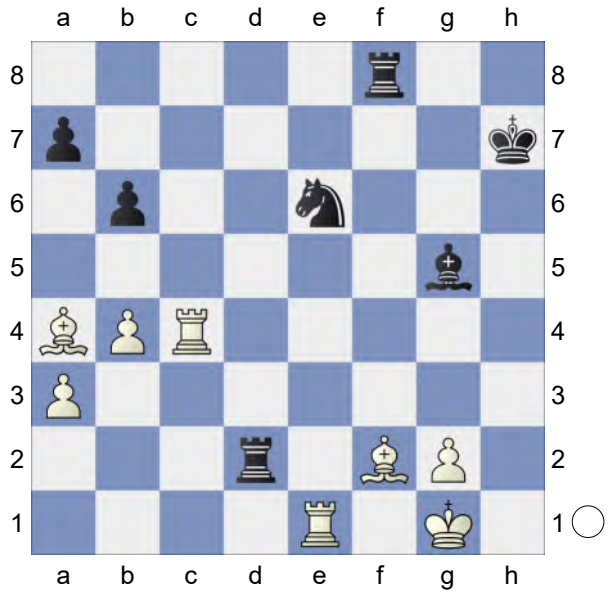


70.Nd8+! Ke8 71.Nc6 Rxc6 72.Qxc6+ Qd7 73.Qa8+ Kf7 74.e6+ Qxe6 75.Qxg8+ Kxg8 76.Nxe6 Kf7 77.gxf5

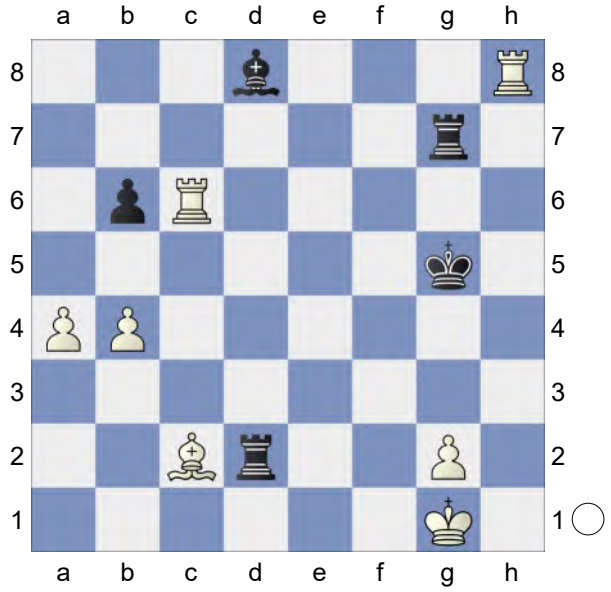
Ke8 78.f6 Kf7 79.Ng5+ Ke8 80.f7+ Kd7 81.f8Q White mates. **81...Kc6 82.Qc5+ Kd7 83.Rf7+ Ke8** Weighted Error Value: White=0.10 (very precise) / Black=0.68 **84.Qf8#**
1-0

15 **C11**
□ **Berserk** **3589**
■ **Seer** **3542**
TCEC 27 Premier 2024 (11.1) 29.11.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Qb6 8.Na4 Qa5+ 9.c3 cxd4 10.b4 Qc7 11.Nxd4 Be7**
[11...g5 12.Bb5 gxf4 13.Bxf4 Ndxe5 14.0-0 Bd6 15.Qh5 Ng6 16.Bxd6 Qxd6 17.Rf6 Qe5 18.Qf3 0-0 19.Bxc6 bxc6 20.Nc5 Nh4 21.Qg4+ Ng6 22.Raf1 Qe3+ 23.Kh1 a5 24.Nxc6 axb4 25.cxb4 Ba6 26.Ne7+ 1-0 Hutchinson,N (2625)-Manukyan,H (2452) (m/3) 42/658 1986]
12.Bd3 Nxd4 White is better. **13.Bxd4 Nb8**
[13...0-0 14.0-0 a5 15.a3 axb4 16.axb4 f5 17.exf6 Bxf6 18.Bxf6 Nxf6 19.Nc5 Rxa1 20.Qxa1 b6 21.Nb3 Ng4 22.Qc1 e5 23.fxe5 Rxf1+ 24.Bxf1 Qxe5 25.g3 Bf5 26.Nd4 Ne3 27.Qe1 Bg6 28.Bg2 0-1 Komov,R (2248)-Janaszak,D (2308) Titled Tuesday intern op 17th Sep Early blitz 2024 (6)]
14.Rc1N
[14.0-0 Nc6 15.Bf2 b6 16.Rc1 21. Steinitz 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 N-Steinitz 7.Be3 Qb6 - 9.c3 c]
14...Nc6 15.Bf2 0-0 16.0-0 b6 17.a3 g6 1.13/20
[17...Bb7± 0.58/18]
18.h4 0.73/18
[⌓18.Bb5 1.13/20]
18...Bb7± 19.h5 Rae8 1.45/18
[⌓19...Kh8 0.93/19]
20.c4 dxc4 21.Bxc4
[21.Rxc4?! b5 22.Rc2 bxa4=]
21...Qb8 1.54/17
[Black should try 21...Rd8± 0.62/19 22.Qg4 Nxe5 23.fxe5 Qxe5]
22.Qg4! Kh8 23.hxg6 Rg8 24.Bd3↑ White has the initiative. White has more active pieces. **24...f5?** 2.38/19
[24...Rxg6!= 0.01/19 25.Bxg6 Rg8 Pin]
25.exf6+- Bxf6 26.Rfe1 Nd4 27.Nc3 Re7 28.f5 1.38/22
[White should try 28.Ne4+- 1.94/19 Rxg6 29.Ng5]
28...Qd6 2.37/21
[28...Qd8± 1.38/22]
29.Red1!
[29.Bh4 Bxh4 30.Qxh4 Reg7 31.fxe6 *(31.f6 Rxg6 32.Bxg6 Rxg6+-)* 31...Nxe6±]
29...Qe5 30.fxe6
[Don't do 30.Re1?! Qd6+-]
30...Nxe6 2.43/22
[⌓30...h5 1.88/19 31.Qh3 Nxe6]
31.Re1 Skewer
[31.gxh7 Rxg4 32.g3 Rxg3+ 33.Kf1 Bg2+ 34.Kg1 Ng5 *(34...Be4+? 35.Kf1-+)* 35.Be2 Nh3+ *(35...Rxc3? 36.Rxc3 Qxc3 37.Rd3-+)* 36.Kh2 Rg8+]
31...Qg5 32.Qxg5 Bxg5 33.gxh7 Rf8 34.Rc2 Rd7 35.Bb5 Rd6 36.Ne4! Bxe4 37.Rxe4 Kxh7 38.Ba4 Rf4 2.87/19
[38...Kh6 1.98/17 39.Bb3 Nf4]
39.Re1 Rf8 40.Rc4 Rd2
(Diagram)



41.Bxb6 axb6 42.Rxe6 Rf6 43.Re5 Kh6 44.Bc2 Inhibits Rd3. **44...Rf7** Against Rc7 **45.a4** Threatens to win with a5. **45...Bd8 46.Re8 Rg7 47.Rc6+ Kh5 48.Rh8+ Kg5**



49.a5 1.77/20 **bxa5 50.bxa5** Loses the game. **50...Bf6?** 3.92/20

[50...Bxa5± 1.50/21 was necessary. 51.Kh2 Bc7+ 52.Kg1 Bb6+ 53.Kh2 *(53.Rxb6 Rxc2 54.Rh3 Rc1+ 55.Kh2 Re7±)* 53...Bc7+]

51.a6 Bd4+ 52.Kh2 Re2 53.Bd1 Re1 5.70/23

[⌓53...Ra2 3.96/20 54.Rh5+ Kf4]

54.Rh5+ Kf4 55.Rh4+ Ke5 56.Bf3 Bg1+ 57.Kh3 Ra1 58.g3 Rd7 59.Re4+ Kf5 60.g4+ Kg5 61.Kg3 Ra5 Repels Re5+ **62.Ree6 Bh2+ 63.Kxh2 Kf4 64.Rcd6 Ra2+ 65.Be2 Rh7+ 66.Kg2** Threatening mate with Rd4+. **66...Ra3 67.Rd4+ Kg5 68.Bd3** 13.95/29

[⌓68.Rd5+ #17/28 Kh4 69.a7 Rg3+ 70.Kf2 Rf7+ 71.Rf5 Rxf5+ 72.gxf5 Rg8 73.Re4+ Kg5 74.Rg4+ Skewer Kxf5 75.Rxg8]

68...Rf7 69.Kg3 White mates. **69...Rf3+ 70.Kxf3 Kh4 71.Re5 Ra2** Weighted Error Value: White=0.10 (very precise) / Black=0.42 **72.Rh5#**

1-0

16 **C11**

□ **Komododragon** **3568**

■ **Ethereal Nnue** **3515**

TCEC 23 Premier 2022 (27.3) 30.09.2022

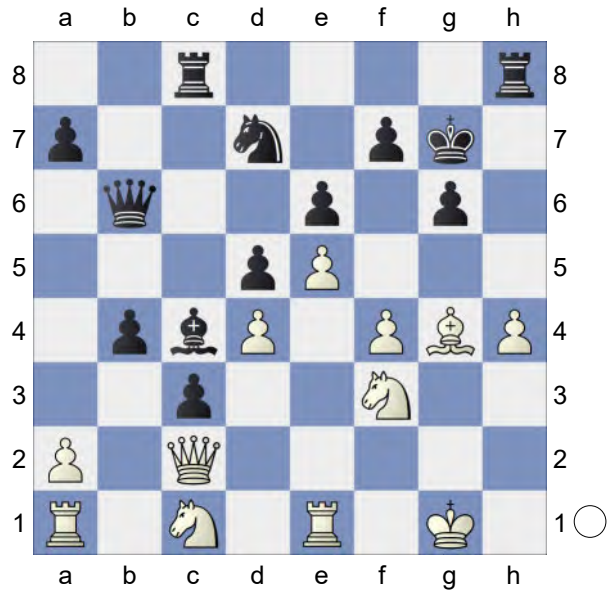
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Qb6 8.Na4 Qa5+ 9.c3 b6 10.Bd2 c4 11.b4 Nxb4 12.cxb4 Bxb4** and ...b5 would now be decisive **13.Qc2 Bxd2+** White is slightly better. **14.Nxd2 b5 15.Nc3 b4 16.Ne2** 0.16/20

[16.Nce4± 0.61/22]

[16.Nd1 Qb6 17.Nf3 0-0 18.a3 b3 19.Qd2 f6 20.h4 Nb8 21.h5 a5 22.h6 Ra7 23.Nc3 Nc6 24.Rd1 Raf7 25.exf6 gxf6 26.g3 Kh8 27.Bh3 Qd8 28.Kf2 Qd6 29.Rhe1 f5 30.Qb2 Rf6 1-0 Caruana,F (2819)-Vachier Lagrave,M (2779) Norway Chess 7th_12839 2019 (2)]

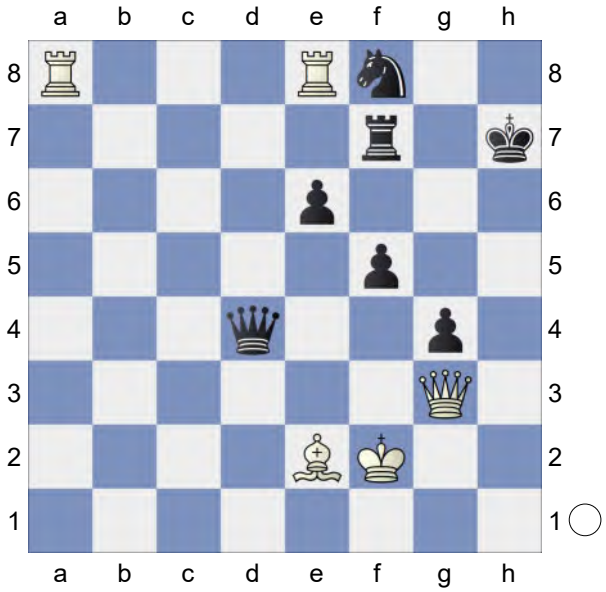
16...0-0 0.57/20
[16...Qb6!= 0.16/20 17.g3 a5 18.Bh3 g6 19.0-0 Ba6 20.g4 h5 21.Nf3 c3 22.gxh5 Rxh5 23.Bg4 Rh8 24.Rad1 a4 25.Rf2 Bxe2 26.Rxe2 Ke7 27.Rb1 Rhc8 28.Kg2 Rc4 29.Ree1 Nb8 30.h4 Nc6 31.Red1 Nxd4 0-1 Harada,A (1684)-Do Carmo,G (2008) Cacoal op 2025 (2)]
17.g3 Qb6 0.86/21
[17...Qa3= 0.25/20]
18.Bg2N
[18.Bh3 a5 19.0-0 a4 20.Rab1 Nb8 21.f5 Nc6 22.Nf3 b3 23.f6 Qb4 24.Qc1 Rd8 25.fxg7 Kxg7 26.Ng5 Ra7 27.Qf4 Qe7 28.Qg4 Rg8 29.Nxf7+ 1-0 Ambartsumova,K (2382)-Muminova,N (2274) EUR Online Women CC Final rapid 2020 (4.3)]
18...Ba6 19.Nf3 c3 20.0-0 Rac8 1.07/21
[20...g6± 0.69/20]
21.Rfe1 g6! 22.Nc1! Bc4 23.h4! h5 24.Bh3! Kg7 25.g4! hxg4 26.Bxg4 Rh8 1.38/20
[⌓26...f6 0.95/21]



27.h5 0.68/21
[White should play 27.Kf2!± 1.38/20]
27...Rh6 1.57/20
[Better is 27...Rcg8± 0.68/21]
28.Kf2! Rg8 2.10/20
[28...f5± 0.94/21 29.exf6+ Nxf6]
29.Rg1+- Kf8 30.Ne2 0.85/19
[30.Nd3+- 2.01/22 is more deadly.]
30...f5 1.75/21
[30...Rg7± 0.85/19]
31.Bh3 Bxe2 32.Qxe2
[32.Kxe2?! Nb8±]
32...Rxh5 33.Bf1 a5 2.29/20
[⌓33...Ke7 1.76/19 34.Qd3 Rh6]
34.Qd3! Kf7? 2.82/20
[34...Ke7± 1.27/18 35.Be2 Qc6]
35.a3 Rb8 3.14/22
[35...Qc7 1.86/20]
36.axb4 axb4 37.Be2! Nf8? 3.19/21
[37...Qc7± 1.18/20]
38.Ng5+ Rxg5 39.fxg5
[39.Rxg5 Rc8 *(39...c2? 40.Qxc2 Qxd4+ 41.Kg2+-)* 40.Rc1 Rc4+-]
39...c2 40.Qxc2 Qxd4+ 41.Kf3
[41.Kg2 Qxe5 42.Ra7+ Kg8±]
41...Kg8 42.Qd3 Qc5 43.Kg2 b3 3.50/20
[43...Qe7 2.38/19 might work better. 44.Qd2 b3]
44.Rgb1 d4 45.Rb2
[45.Rxb3 Qd5+ *(45...Qxe5? 46.Rxb8* Deflection *Qxb8 47.Qxd4+-)* 46.Bf3 Qxb3 *(46...Rxb3? 47.Bxd5 Rxd3 48.Bc4-+)* 47.Qxd4 Rc8-+]
45...Qxe5 46.Ra4
[46.Rxb3? Qd5+ 47.Bf3 Rxb3-+]
46...Qf4 47.Qxd4
[47.Rxd4 Qxg5+ 48.Kf2 *(48.Qg3 Qxg3+ 49.Kxg3 Nh7+-)* 48...Qf6±]
47...Qxg5+ 48.Kf2 Rb7 49.Qe5 Qh6 50.Bf3 Rf7 51.Rxb3 g5 52.Rb8 g4 53.Be2 Kh7 54.Raa8 Qh4+
[54...Ng6 55.Rh8+ *(55.Qxe6 Qh4+ 56.Kf1 Qh1+ 57.Kf2 Qh4+ 58.Kf1*

Qh3+ 59.Ke1 Qc3+ 60.Kd1 Qd4+ 61.Kc2 Rc7+ 62.Kb3 Qc3+ 63.Ka2 Qd2+ 64.Rb2 Qd7+-) 55...Nxh8 56.Rxh8+ Kg6 57.Qxe6+ *(57.Rxh6+ Kxh6 58.Qxe6+ Kg7+-)* 57...Rf6 58.Rxh6+ Kxh6 59.Qxf6+ Kh7 60.Qg5 *(60.Qxf5+ Kg7 61.Bxg4 Kh6 62.Qf6+ Kh7 63.Qf7+ Kh6 64.Kg3 Kg5 65.Qg7#)*]

55.Qg3 Qf6 56.Re8 Qd4+



57.Kf1!

[57.Qe3? g3+ 58.Kf3 *(58.Kxg3 Qxe3+ 59.Kh2 Qxe2+ 60.Kh1 Rg7)* 58...Qd5+ 59.Kxg3 *(59.Kf4? Ng6+ 60.Kxg3 f4+-+)* 59...f4+∓]

57...Kg7 58.Rad8 Qa1+ 59.Qe1 Qe5 60.Qd2 Qa1+ 61.Kg2 Qf6 Prevents Qg5+. **62.Qd6 Qb2 63.Kf1 Qa1+ 64.Bd1 Qf6 65.Kg2 Ng6 66.Kg1**

[66.Qxe6? perishes. Nf4+ 67.Kg3 Nxe6-+]

[66.Rxe6 Qxe6 67.Qxe6 Nf4+ 68.Kg3 Nxe6∓]

66...Qe5 67.Qxe5+

[Less strong is 67.Qxe6 Qg3+ 68.Kf1 Qh3+ 69.Ke1 Qc3+ 70.Kf2 Rf6 71.Qd7+ Kh6 72.Qd2+ Qxd2+ 73.Rxd2 Kg5+-]

67...Nxe5 68.Rxe6 Nd7 69.Bb3 and Rd6 should not be overlooked **69...Nf8** 6.54/19

[⌓69...Nc5 4.52/19 70.Rb6 Nxb3 71.Rxb3 f4]

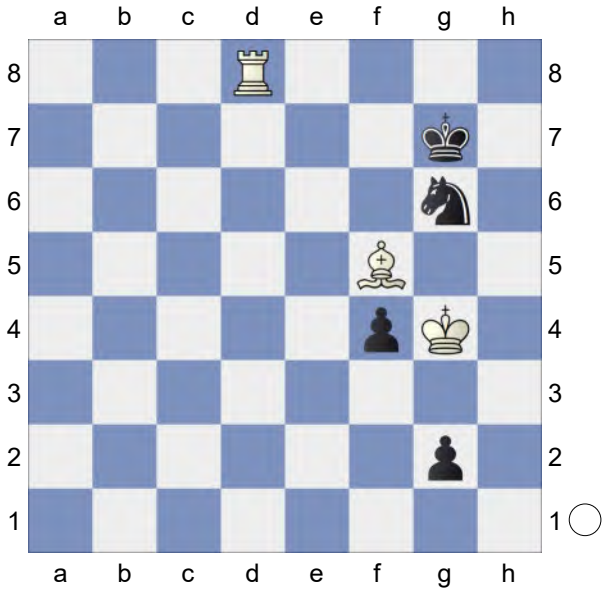
70.Ree8 Rf6 71.Kf2 f4 72.Bc4 Ng6 73.Re6 4.95/25

[⌓73.Rg8+ 10.96/22 Kh6 74.Rde8]

73...g3+ 74.Kf3 Nh4+ 11.54/25

[⌓74...Rxe6 4.18/20 75.Bxe6 Kf6]

75.Kg4 Rxe6 76.Bxe6 Ng6 77.Bf5 g2



78.Rd1! Intending Bxg6 and mate. **78...Kg8** Weighted Error Value: White=0.08 (flawless) /Black=0.40 **79.Bxg6**

1-0

17 **C11**

□ **Seer** **3542**

■ **Berserk** **3589**

TCEC 27 Premier 2024 (4.1) 27.11.2024

[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Qb6 8.Na4 Qa5+ 9.c3 cxd4 10.b4 Qd8 11.Nxd4**

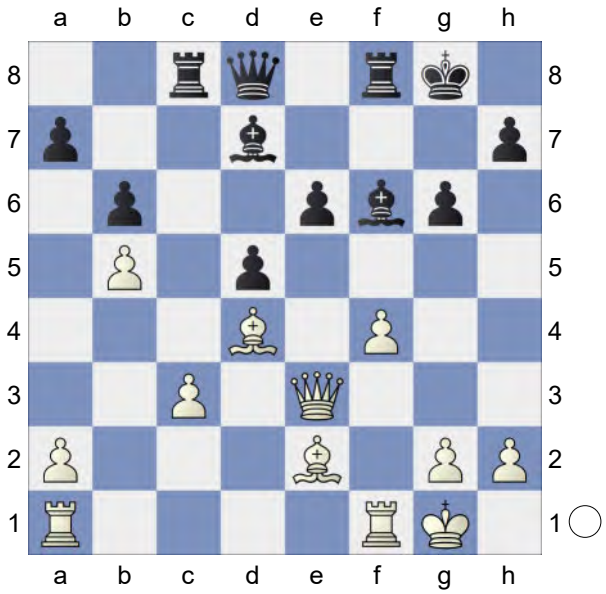
[11.cxd4 Bxb4+ 12.Bd2 Qa5∓]

11...Nxd4 12.Bxd4 b6N

[12...Be7 13.Bd3 0-0 *(13...b6 14.0-0 0-0 15.Qh5 g6 16.Qh6* 21. Steinitz 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 N-Steinitz 7.Be3 Qb6 - 9.c3 c*)* 14.Qc2 g6 15.h4 Bxh4+ 16.Ke2 Bg3 17.Raf1 Part Iii Playing The Impossi-Jon Arnason Vs Allan Savage Bxf4 18.Rxf4 Qg5 19.Rfh4 h5 20.Qd2 Qxg2+ 21.Kd1 Qxd2+ 22.Kxd2 f5 23.Rg1 Kf7 24.Ke3 b6 25.Be2 Bb7 26.Kf4 Rac8 27.Bf2 Nb8 28.Rxh5 Rh8 29.Rxh8 Rxh8 30.Bf3 Nd7 31.Nb2 Ba6 32.a4 1-0 Arnason,J (2445)-Savage,A (2310) Reykjavik op 1982]

[12...Nb8 13.a3 Nc6 14.Bb5 Bd7 15.Bxc6 Bxc6 16.0-0 Be7 17.Nc5 b6 18.Nd3 g6 19.a4 C 11/18 2000]

13.Bd3 White is better. **13...Nb8 14.0-0 Be7 15.Qh5 g6 16.Qh6 Bf8** Against Qg7 **17.Qh3 Bg7 18.Nb2** White has more active pieces. **18...0-0 19.b5** Prevents Nc6. **19...Nd7 20.Qe3 Nc5 21.Bc2 f5 22.exf6 Bxf6 23.Nd3 Nxd3 24.Bxd3 Bd7 25.Be2 Rc8**



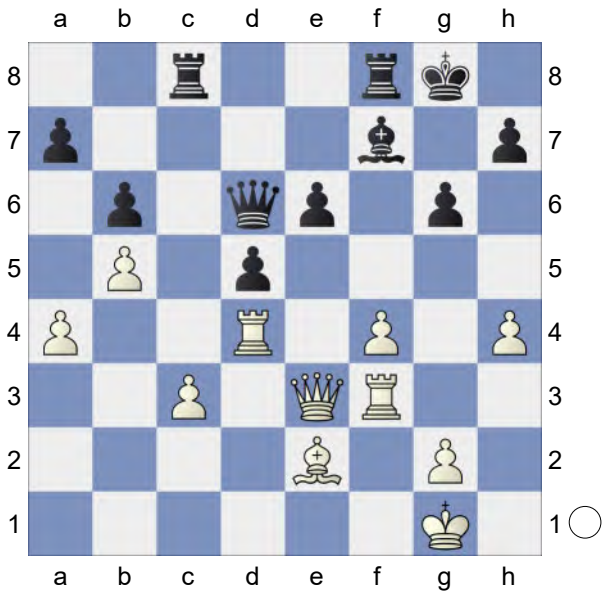
26.a4! Qc7 27.Rad1 Qd6 28.Bxf6 Rxf6 29.Rd4 Be8 30.h4 Rf8 1.13/18

[30...Bf7± 0.62/18]

31.Rf3 0.64/19

[31.Rfd1± 1.13/18]

31...Bf7±



32.h5! Rfe8! 33.hxg6 0.33/20

[White should try 33.Bf1± 0.82/20]

33...hxg6 34.Qd2 Kg7 35.Rh3 Qd8 36.Bg4 Rh8 37.Re3 Qh4 38.Bh3

[38.Bxe6? Bxe6 39.Rxe6 Qh1+ 40.Kf2 Rh2-+]

38...Qf6 39.Re5 Rh4 40.Qe3 Rch8 41.Qf2

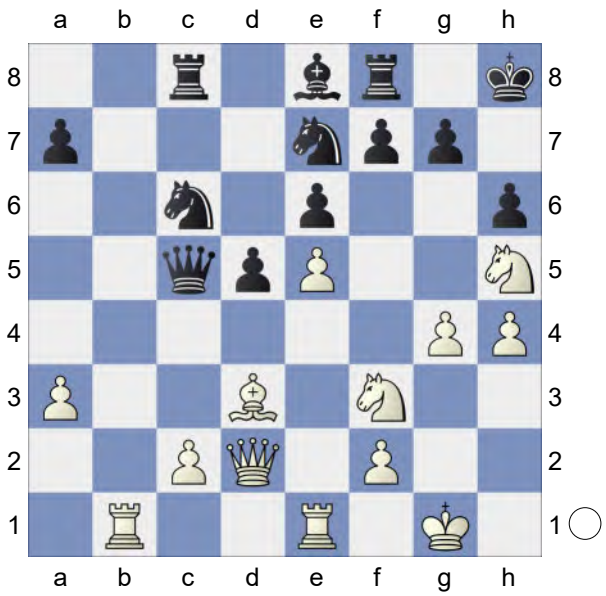
[41.Bxe6? loses. Rh1+ 42.Kf2 Qh4+ 43.Kf3 *(43.Qg3? Rf1+* Deflection *44.Kxf1 Qxg3-+)* 43...Rf1+ 44.Ke2 Qe1+ *(44...Re1+? 45.Kd2-+)* 45.Kd3 Qb1+ 46.Ke2 Re1+ 47.Kf2 Rxe3-+]

41...Re8 42.Kh2 Rf8 43.Rg5 Rfh8 44.Kg1 R4h5 45.Qe3 R5h6 46.Kh2 Rc8 47.Re5 Rh4 48.Qf3 Rch8 49.Qg3 Rd8 50.Rg5 Rh6 51.Kg1 Rdh8 52.Rb4 Re8 53.Re5 Rh4 54.Rd4 Reh8 55.Re3 Rc8 and ...Rxc3! should not be overlooked **56.Qf2 Rc7** The position is equal. **57.Rf3 Rh8 58.g4 e5 59.fxe5 Qxe5 60.Rdd3 Re8 61.Rde3 Qd6 62.Rxe8 Bxe8 63.Qd4+**

Kg8 64.Re3
[64.Bf1 Qc5 65.g5 Qxd4+ 66.cxd4 Rc2 67.a5]
64...Bf7 65.Bf1 Dodges Rc4 **65...Re7 66.Rh3 Qe5 67.Bd3 Qe1+**
[67...Kg7 simplifies 68.Qxe5+ Rxe5 69.Kf2 Kf6]
68.Kg2 Qe5 Against Rh8+ **69.Kf3 g5 70.Rh6**
[70.Rh1 feels hotter. Kg7 71.Rh7+ Kg8 72.Rh6]
70...Re8 71.Qxe5 Rxe5 72.Rd6 Re7 Prevents Rd7 **73.Bg6** Threatens to win with Bxf7+. **73...Rc7 74.Rc6 Re7** Weighted Error Value: White=0.08 (flawless) /Black=0.04 (flawless) **75.Rc8+**
½-½

18 **C11**
□ **Berserk13** **3540**
■ **Stoofvleesii D2** **3479**
TCEC 26 Premier 2024 (40.4) 05.05.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Ng8 5.a3**
[5.Be3 Ne7 6.f4 Nf5 7.Bf2 h5 8.Nf3 b6 9.g3 Ba6 10.Bxa6 Nxa6 11.Ne2 Qd7 12.0-0 c5 13.c3 c4 14.h3 b5 15.Kg2 b4 16.g4 hxg4 17.hxg4 Nh6 18.Rh1 Rg8 19.g5 Nf5 1-0 Berg,K (2439)-Dworakowska,J (2382) Aarhus GM 2003 (6)]
[5.Qh5 c5 6.Nf3 g6 7.Qg4 Nc6 8.Bg5 Qb6 9.0-0-0 Be7 10.Bxe7 Ngxe7 11.Nb5 Nf5 12.Qf4 0-0 13.g4 Nfxd4 14.Nbxd4 Nxd4 15.Nxd4 cxd4 16.g5 Bd7 17.h4 Rfc8 18.h5 Ba4 19.Bd3 Bxc2 ½-½ Leisebein,V (163)-Bataille,B (127) Kortschnoj 70 rapid 2001 (3)]
5...Bd7N
[5...c5 6.dxc5 Nc6 7.Nf3 Bxc5 8.b4 Bb6 9.Nb5 Bc7 10.Bb2 Nge7 11.c4 Aaron,D-CBM 64 URS-ch Soviet Union 1983]
6.Be3 Nh6 7.Nf3! Nf5 8.Bg5 White is better. **8...Be7 9.h4 h6 10.Bxe7 Nxe7 11.Bd3 c5 12.dxc5** White is more active. **12...b6** 1.63/21
[12...Qc7± 0.99/21]
13.cxb6+- Qxb6 14.0-0! Qxb2 15.Qd2 Qb6 16.Rab1! Qc5 1.74/20
[16...Qc7± 1.00/20]
17.Ne2 0-0 1.66/19
[17...Nbc6± 1.25/20]
18.Ng3! Be8 19.Nh5 1.07/17
[Better is 19.Rfe1+- 1.69/19]
19...Nbc6± Against Rb4 **20.Rfe1** Dodges f5 This move loses the game for Black. **20...Kh8** 2.37/21
[20...Qxa3± 0.91/16 is a better defense. 21.Nf6+ Kh8 *(21...gxf6? 22.Qxh6+-)*]
21.g4+- Rc8 2.87/20
[⌓21...Rg8 1.94/18 22.g5 hxg5]



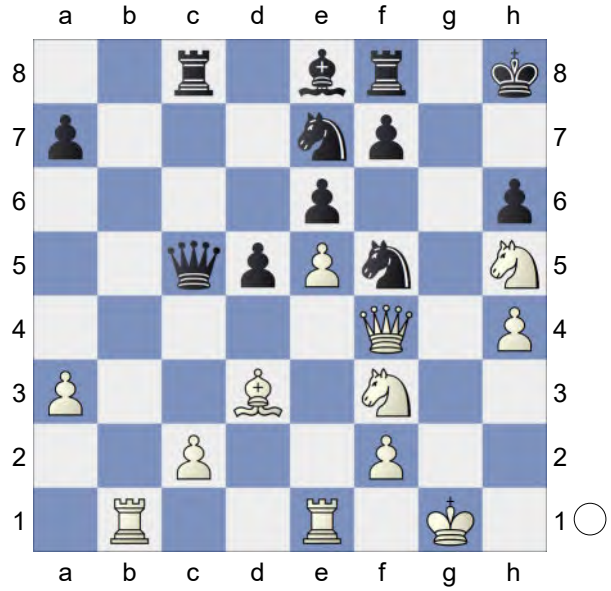
22.g5! Nd4

[22...f6 23.Nxg7 Nxe5 24.Rxe5 *(24.Nxe6? Nxf3+ 25.Kg2 Nxd2-+; 24.Nxe5 Kxg7 25.gxf6+ Rxf6+-)* 24...fxe5 25.Nxe6+-]

23.Qf4 Ndf5

[23...Nxf3+?! 24.Qxf3 Ng8 25.Qf4±]

24.gxh6→ Black is in trouble. **24...gxh6**



25.Rb7! Rg8+ 26.Kf1 Rg6

[26...Ng6 27.Qd2 Qc3 28.Qxc3 *(28.Rxa7 Qxd2 29.Nxd2 Ngxh4±)* 28...Rxc3 29.Nf6+- *(29.Rxa7 Bb5=)*]

27.Qb4 Qxb4 28.axb4 Ba4? 4.31/21

[28...Bc6 2.30/21 29.Rxa7 d4]

29.Nf6

[29.Rxa7 Bxc2 30.Bxc2 Rxc2=]

29...Kg7

[29...Bxc2 30.Bxc2 Rxc2 31.h5+-]

30.Rc1

[30.Rxa7 Bxc2 31.Bxc2 Rxc2±]

30...a6 31.Bxa6 Bxc2 32.Ne1 Dodges Bd3+

[32.Rxe7? Bd3+ 33.Bxd3 Rxc1+ 34.Ke2 Nxe7-+]

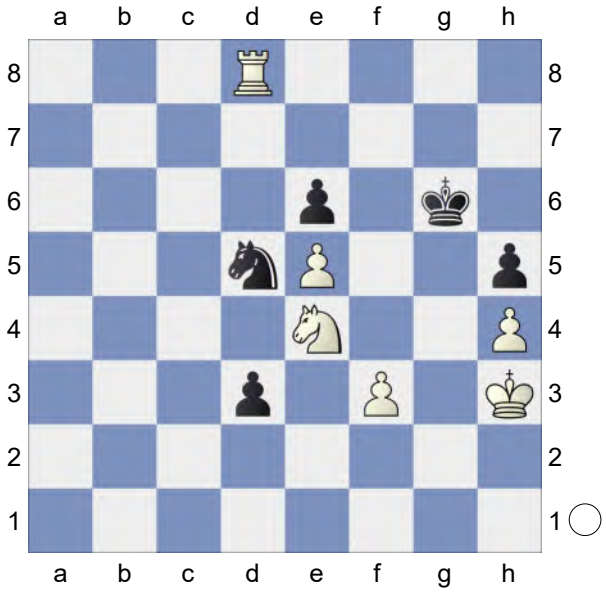
32...Ra8 33.Nh5+ Kh8 34.Nxc2 Rxa6 35.Ne3 Wards off Rg4 **35...Rc6 36.Ra1 Rc8 37.Nxf5 Nxf5 38.Rxf7 Nd4 39.f3 Nf5 40.b5 Rc2** (→ ...Ne3+) **41.Rf8+ Rg8 42.Rxg8+ Kxg8** Endgame KRN-KRN. White is a pawn up. **43.b6 Ne3+ 44.Kg1 Rg2+ 45.Kh1** Hoping for Rg1. **45...Rb2 46.Ra7 d4 47.b7 d3 48.Nf6+ Kf8 49.Ne4**

[Weaker is 49.Ra8+ Kf7 50.Ne4 *(50.b8R d2±)* 50...Rxb7 51.Nd6+ Kg6 52.Nxb7 d2±]

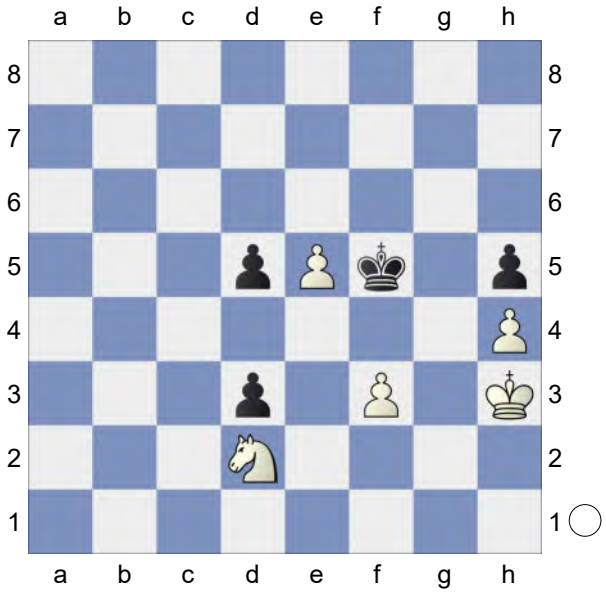
49...Rb1+ 50.Kh2 Rb2+ 51.Kh3 h5 52.Ra8+ Kf7 53.b8Q

[53.b8B leads to mate. Nf1 54.Ra7+ Kg6]

53...Rxb8 54.Rxb8 Kg6 55.Rd8 Nd5



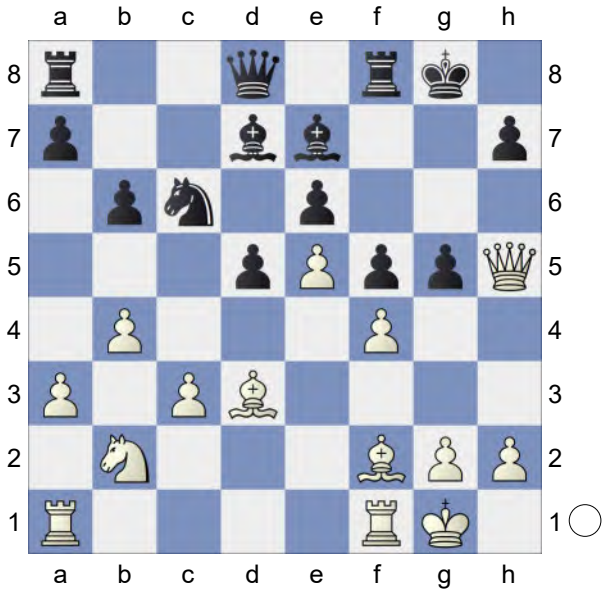
56.Rxd5! exd5 KN-K3P **57.Nd2 Kf5**



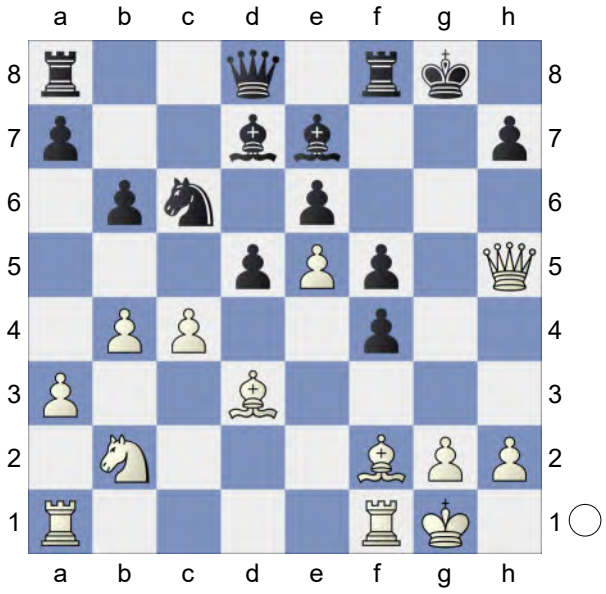
58.f4! d4
[58...Kxf4 59.e6]
59.Kg2 White mates. **59...Kxf4 60.e6 Ke5 61.e7 Kf6 62.e8Q Kg7 63.Ne4 d2 64.Ng5 d1Q 65.Qf7+ Kh6** Weighted Error Value: White=0.25 (precise) /Black=0.68 **66.Qh7#**
1-0

19 **C11**
□ **Ethereal** **3532**
■ **Stockfish Dev Da50** **3607**
TCEC 24 Premier 2023 (11.1) 19.03.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Qb6 8.Na4 Qa5+ 9.c3 cxd4 10.b4 Qd8 11.Nxd4**
[11.cxd4 Bxb4+ 12.Kf2 Na5∓]
11...Nxd4 12.Bxd4 b6N
[12...Be7 13.Bd3 0-0 *(13...b6 14.0-0 0-0 15.Qh5 g6 16.Qh6* 21. Steinitz 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 N-Steinitz 7.Be3 Qb6 - 9.c3 c*)* 14.Qc2 g6 15.h4 Bxh4+ 16.Ke2 Bg3 17.Raf1 Part Iii Playing The Impossi-Jon Arnason Vs Allan Savage Bxf4 18.Rxf4 Qg5 19.Rfh4 h5 20.Qd2 Qxg2+ 21.Kd1 Qxd2+ 22.Kxd2 f5 23.Rg1 Kf7 24.Ke3 b6 25.Be2 Bb7 26.Kf4 Rac8 27.Bf2 Nb8 28.Rxh5 Rh8 29.Rxh8 Rxh8 30.Bf3 Nd7 31.Nb2 Ba6 32.a4 1-0 Arnason,J (2445)-Savage,A (2310) Reykjavik op 1982]
[12...Nb8 13.a3 Nc6 14.Bb5 Bd7 15.Bxc6 Bxc6 16.0-0 Be7 17.Nc5 b6 18.Nd3 g6 19.a4 C 11/18 2000]
13.Bb5 White is better. **13...Be7 14.0-0 0-0 15.Nb2 Nb8** Prevents Bc6. **16.Qe2 Bd7 17.Bd3 Nc6 18.Bf2 f6 19.Qh5 f5 20.a3 g5**

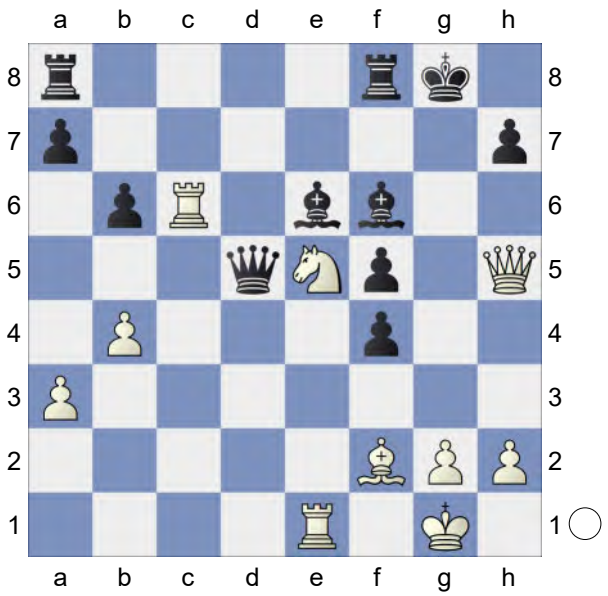


21.c4! gxf4



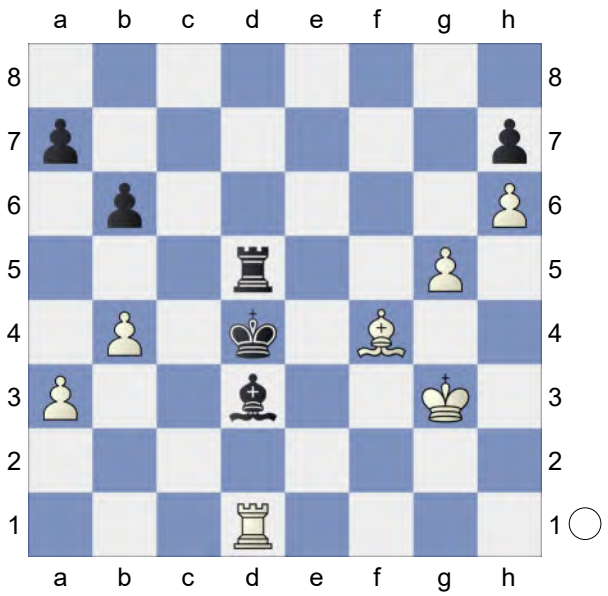
22.Rfe1 Qc7 23.cxd5 Nxe5 24.Rac1 Qd6 25.dxe6 Nxd3 26.Nxd3 Bxe6 27.Ne5 Bf6 28.Rc6 Qd5

(Diagram)



29.Rc7! Bf7 30.Qxf5 0.44/21
White has more active pieces.
[Better is 30.Nxf7± 0.84/22 Threatening mate with Nd6!. Rxf7 31.Rd1 *(31.Rxf7 Qxf7 32.Qxf5 Bg7±)*]
30...Bg6!± 31.Qxf4
[31.Nxg6? Qxf5 32.Nxf8 Rxf8-+]
31...Bxe5 32.Qxe5
[32.Rxe5? Qd1+ 33.Re1 Qxe1+ 34.Bxe1 Rxf4-+]
32...Qxe5 33.Rxe5 Rf7 34.Rc1 Rd7 35.h4 Re8 36.Rg5 Kf7 37.h5 Bd3 38.h6 Rg8 Against Rg7+ **39.Rxg8 Kxg8** Endgame KRB-KRB. White is a pawn up. **40.Be3 Kf7 41.Kf2 Ke6 42.g4 Kd5 43.Bf4 Ke4 44.Kg3 Bb5** Hoping for ...Rd3+. **45.Re1+ Kd4 46.g5 Bd3 47.Rd1 Rd5!**

(Diagram)



48.g6! hxg6 49.Kg4 aiming for Bg5.
[Much worse is 49.h7 Rh5∓]
49...Kc4 0.88/22
[49...Kc3± 0.46/24 feels stronger.]
50.Re1 0.16/20
[50.Rc1+± 0.88/22 Kb3 51.Rc7 *(51.h7 Rh5∓)* 51...Bf5+ 52.Kf3]
50...g5!= 51.Bxg5 Bf5+ 52.Kf4 Kb3 53.Re3+ Ka4 54.Rc3 Bb1 55.Be7 Rd7 56.Bg5 Rd5 57.Be7 Rd7 58.Bf6 Rd2 59.Be5 Re2 Weighted Error Value: White=0.10 (very precise) /Black=0.05 (flawless) **60.Bg7**
½-½

20 **C11**
□ **Komododragon** **3522**
■ **Scorpionn** **3496**
TCEC 20 Premier 2020 (47.2) 11.01.2021
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 Gipslis,Aivars: 'Gipslis,A: 'Inf 20/241'' **1.d4 Nf6 2.Nc3 e6 3.e4 d5 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Nc5** 0.81/19
[8...Bc5= 0.28/20]

[8...g6 9.Qd2 a6 10.0-0-0 Qc7 11.h4 h5 12.Be2 Nxd4 13.Bxd4 Bc5 14.g4 Bxd4 15.Qxd4 hxg4 16.Bxg4 Qc5 17.Qd2 Nb6 18.Be2 Nc4 19.Bxc4 Qxc4 20.b3 Qc5 21.Ne4 Qa3+ 22.Kb1 Bd7 23.Nd6+ 1-0 Yarebore (2969)-Haydon (2730) Blitz 2021]

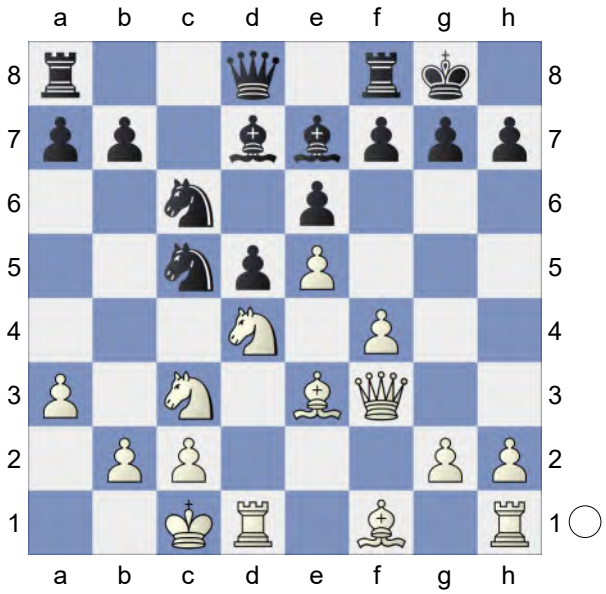
[8...Be7 9.Qd2 0-0 10.Be2 a6 11.0-0 Nc5 12.Bf3 Bd7 13.Qf2 Nxd4 14.Bxd4 Rc8 15.Rae1 Bb5 16.Nxb5 axb5 17.c3 Nd3 18.Qe3 Nxe1 19.Rxe1 b4 20.g4 bxc3 21.bxc3 Qa5 22.f5 Bc5 23.f6 1-0 Hadraba,V (2131)-Martin,M (1585) Usti nad Labem blitz op 2023 (13)]

9.a3N

[9.Qd2 a6 *(9...Be7 10.Be2 Bd7 11.0-0-0 0-0 12.Bf3 a6 13.Qf2 Qa5 14.Kb1 Rac8 15.Nb3 Nxb3 16.cxb3 d4 17.Bxd4 Nxd4 18.Qxd4 Bc6 19.Bxc6 Rxc6 20.Qd7 Rc7 21.Qa4 Qxa4 22.Nxa4 f6 23.exf6 Rxf6 24.g3* 1-0 Down,N-Wallwork,G Scotland corr SCCA 1987) 10.0-0-0 Qa5 11.Kb1 Bd7 12.Be2 Rc8 13.Bf3 Na4 14.Nxa4 Qxa4 15.c3 Be7 16.Nb3 Nd8 17.Qf2 Bb5 18.Nd4 Nc6 19.f5 Nxd4 20.Bxd4 a5 21.f6 gxf6 22.exf6 Bd6 23.Rhe1 Bc4 1-0 Gaprindashvili,N-Alexandria,N Picunda/(m/11) 20/353 1975]

9...Be7 10.Qf3 Bd7 White is slightly better. **11.0-0-0** White is more active. **11...0-0**

(Diagram)



12.h4! Rc8

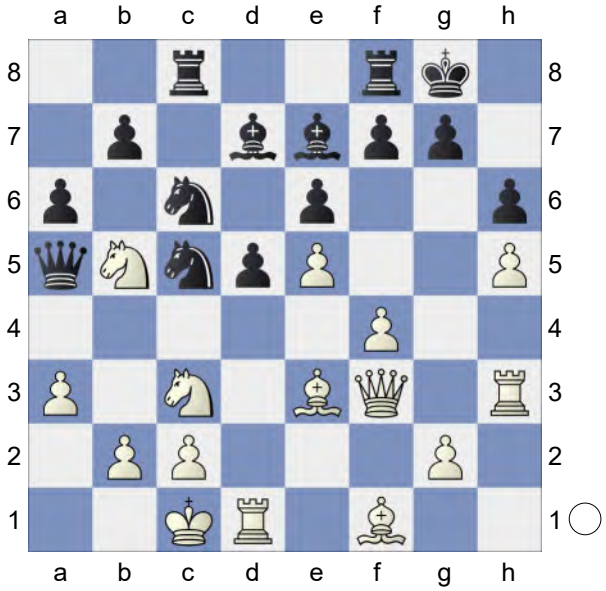
[12...Qa5 13.g4]

13.Ndb5 Qa5 14.h5 h6 1.44/18

[⌓14...Na4 0.74/19]

15.Rh3!± a6 1.36/22

[⌓15...f6 0.76/19]



16.Rg3! axb5 17.Qg4! g5 18.hxg6→ White attacks with force. **18...f5 19.exf6 Rxf6** and ...b4 would now be decisive **20.Bxb5 Kg7** 1.77/18

[20...d4± 0.86/20 21.Qh4 *(21.Bxc6 dxc3 22.Bxc5 cxb2+ 23.Kxb2*

Qxc5∓) 21...Kg7 *(21...dxc3? 22.Qxh6+-)* 22.Bxc6 Bxc6 23.Bxd4 Pin Rh8]

21.Bxc6!+- bxc6 22.Bd4 Pin **22...e5** 2.30/22 **23.Qe2 Qd8** 2.64/22

[23...Re8± 1.15/20 24.Bxe5 Pin *(24.Qxe5 Ne6=)* 24...Bd8]

24.Bxe5 Pin

[24.Qxe5 Ne6 25.Re1 c5∓]

24...Bd6 2.48/22

[24...Qf8 1.80/20]

25.Bxd6

[25.Bxf6+ Qxf6 26.Kb1 Rb8∓ *(26...Bxf4 27.Rf1±; 26...Qxf4 27.Rf3±)*]

25...Rxd6 26.Qe3 Nb7 2.73/19

[⌓26...d4 1.62/20 27.Rxd4 Qf6]

27.f5! d4 3.65/24

[27...Bxf5? 28.Rh1+-]

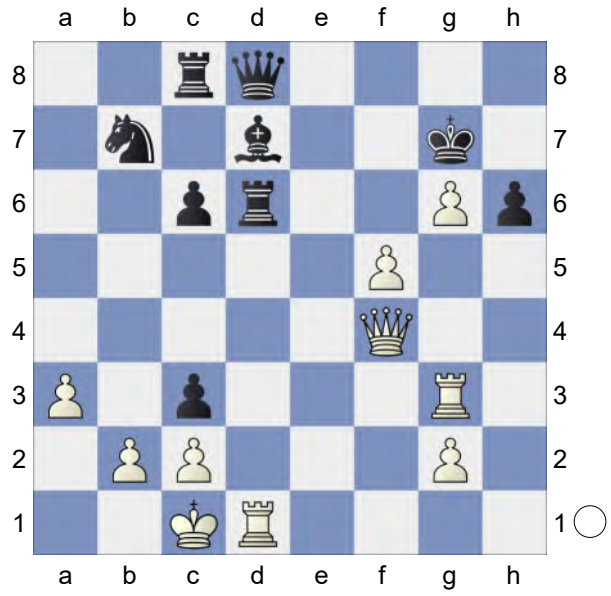
[27...Qf6 2.16/21]

28.Qf4

[28.Rxd4 Bxf5 29.Ne2 Rb8= *(29...Bxg6 30.Rxd6 Nxd6 31.Nf4+-)*]

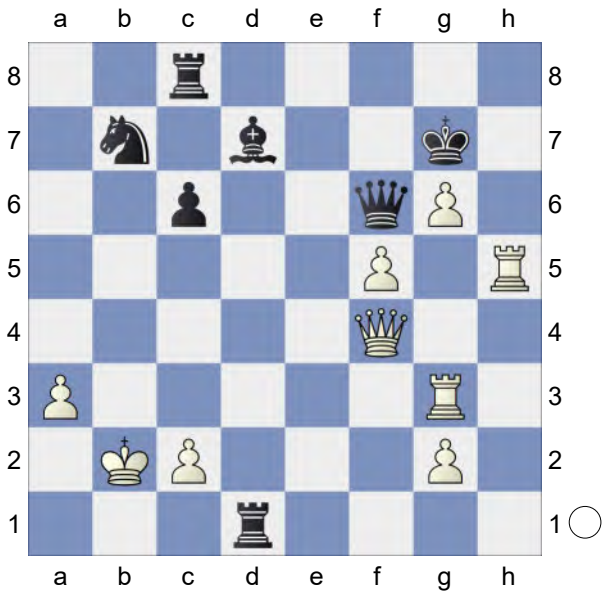
28...dxc3? 5.10/22

[28...Qf6 3.12/25 was necessary.]



29.Rh1! cxb2+ 30.Kb1! h5 31.Rxh5 Rd1+ 32.Kxb2 Qf6+ 5.91/27

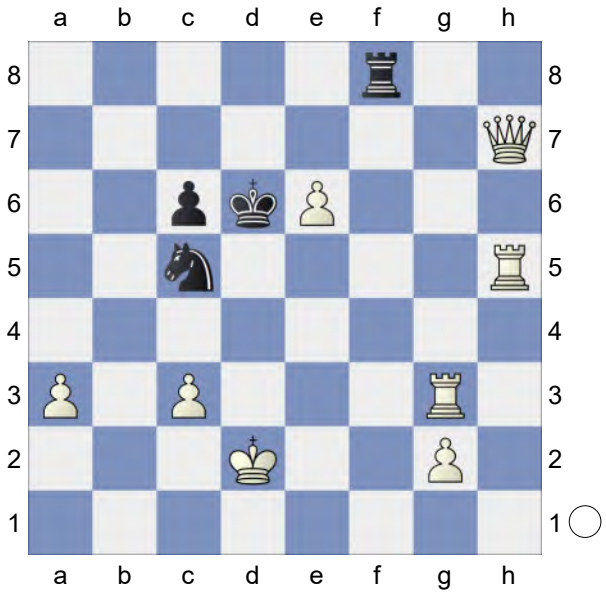
[⌓32...Qb6+ 4.06/26 33.Rb3 Skewer Qd4+ *(33...Qc7 34.f6+ Kxg6 35.Qh6+ Kf7 36.Qg7+ Ke8 37.Rh8#)* 34.Qxd4+ Rxd4]



33.c3! Hoping for Qh6+. **33...Be6 34.Qh6+ Kg8 35.Qh7+**

[35.fxe6 gets mated. Qf2+]

35...Kf8 36.g7+ Ke7 37.g8Q+ Kd6 38.Qxe6+ Qxe6 39.fxe6 Rd2+ 40.Kc1 White mates. **40...Nc5 41.Kxd2 Rf8**



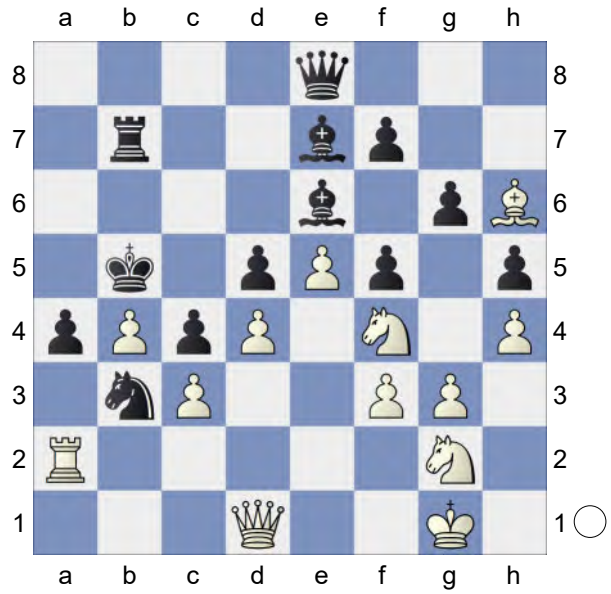
42.Rd3+! Kxe6 43.Qg6+ Ke7 44.Rh7+ Rf7 Weighted Error Value: White=0.01

(flawless) /Black=0.97 **45.Qxf7#**
1-0

21 **C11**
□ **Stoofvlees Ii B1** **3511**
■ **Rofchade** **3486**
TCEC 23 Premier 2022 (35.4) 30.09.2022
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Ng8 5.a3**
[5.Be3 Ne7 6.f4 Nf5 7.Bf2 h5 8.Nf3 b6 9.g3 Ba6 10.Bxa6 Nxa6 11.Ne2 Qd7 12.0-0 c5 13.c3 c4 14.h3 b5 15.Kg2 b4 16.g4 hxg4 17.hxg4 Nh6 18.Rh1 Rg8 19.g5 Nf5 1-0 Berg,K (2439)-Dworakowska,J (2382) Aarhus GM 2003 (6)]
[5.Qh5 c5 6.Nf3 g6 7.Qg4 Nc6 8.Bg5 Qb6 9.0-0-0 Be7 10.Bxe7 Ngxe7 11.Nb5 Nf5 12.Qf4 0-0 13.g4 Nfxd4 14.Nbxd4 Nxd4 15.Nxd4 cxd4 16.g5 Bd7 17.h4 Rfc8 18.h5 Ba4 19.Bd3 Bxc2 ½-½ Leisebein,V (163)-Bataille,B (127) Kortschnoj 70 rapid 2001 (3)]
5...Bd7N
[5...c5 6.dxc5 Nc6 7.Nf3 Bxc5 8.b4 Bb6 9.Nb5 Bc7 10.Bb2 Nge7 11.c4 Aaron,D-CBM 64 URS-ch Soviet Union 1983]
6.Qg4 h5 7.Qf4 b6 8.b3 White is better. **8...c5 9.Nf3 Nc6 10.Bd3 Nh6 11.Ne2** White is much more active. **11...g6 12.h3 Nf5 13.c3 Na5 14.Rb1 c4** 1.07/21
[14...Bh6± 0.62/22 should be considered. 15.Qh2 Bxc1 16.Nxc1 Nh4]
15.Bxf5± exf5 16.b4 0.48/23
[16.bxc4± 1.04/24 Nxc4 17.h4]
16...Nb3!± 17.Be3 a5 1.01/26
[17...h4!± 0.34/25]
18.h4± Be6 1.23/26
[18...axb4± 0.70/26 19.axb4 b5]
19.0-0!↑ White has strong initiative.
19...Kd7 20.Rb2 axb4 21.axb4 Rg8 22.Qg3 Kc6 23.Bg5 Qd7 24.Qf4 Ra4 25.Kh2 1.16/25
[⌓25.Bf6 1.52/24]
25...Rh8 26.Re1 1.11/25
[⌓26.Rfb1 1.48/24]
26...Ra3 27.Qg3! Rg8 28.Reb1 Qa7 29.Nf4 Qd7 30.Nh3 Ra7 1.47/24
[30...Qa7 1.08/23 31.Qf4 Ra1]
31.Rd1 0.98/24
[White should try 31.Qf4 1.47/24]
31...Ra4 1.46/23
[⌓31...Ra3 0.98/24 32.Ne1 Be7]
32.Qf4 Rh8 33.Qe3 Bg7 34.Bf4 Raa8 1.60/25
[34...Rha8 1.20/23 35.Rf1 Kb7]
35.Nfg5 Bf8 36.Re1 Qe8 37.Ree2 Ra4 38.Ra2 b5 39.Rxa4 bxa4 40.Nf3 Qd8 41.Ra2 Kb5 42.Bg5 Qd7 43.Nf4 Rg8 44.Ne2 Rh8 45.Ne1 Bg7 46.Nc2 Qc7 47.Ng1 Rc8 48.Bh6
[48.Na3+ Ka6=]
48...Bf6 49.g3 Really sharp! **49...Be7 50.Nh3 Qc6 51.Qe1 Ka6 52.Ne3 Rc7 53.Qh1 Rd7 54.Nc2 Kb6 55.Qf3 Ra7 56.Ne1 Qd7 57.Qf4 Qc6 58.Ng1 Kb5 59.Bg5 Bf8 60.Qe3 Ka6 61.Bh6 Be7 62.Ne2 Kb6 63.Kg1 Kb5 64.Bg5** 0.72/25
[⌓64.Nc2 1.20/23]
64...Bf8 1.34/24
[⌓64...Bxg5 0.72/25 65.Qxg5 Ra8]
65.f3 Ra8 66.Ng2 Qb7 67.Qf2 Ra6 1.34/23
[Black should try 67...Be7 0.97/23]
68.Ne3 Ra7 69.Nc2 Kb6 70.Qe3 Qc6 71.Bh6 Be7 72.Ne1 Qd7 73.Ng2 Rb7 74.Nef4 Ka6 75.Qe1 Kb5 76.Qd1

Qe8



77.Nh3! Qh8 ...f4! would now be deadly. **78.Bg5 Bf8 79.Ne3 Bg7** Black is weak on the dark squares **80.Nf4 Rd7 81.Qc2** g4! would now be deadly. **81...Qe8 82.Kh2 Qa8 83.Qg2 Bf8 84.g4 fxg4**

[84...Nc1? 85.Ra3+-]

85.fxg4 This costs Black the game. **85...Bxg4?** 5.21/21

[85...hxg4± 0.77/19 is a better chance. 86.Nxg4 *(86.Nxe6 g3+ 87.Qxg3 fxe6±)* 86...Be7]

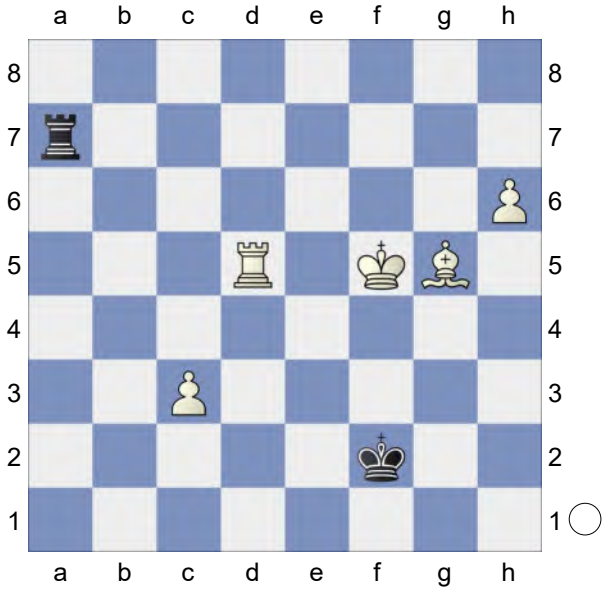
86.Nfxd5+-

[Less strong is 86.Nexd5 Qc6±]

86...Qc6 Repels Nc7+ **87.Nf6** A dynamic duo of knights. **87...Qxg2+ 88.Kxg2 Ra7 89.Nexg4 hxg4 90.d5**

[90.Nxg4 Bxb4 91.cxb4 Rd7±]

90...Ra8 91.Nxg4 a3 92.d6 Kc6 93.Kf3 Ra6 94.Nf6 Ra8 95.Ke4 Bxd6 96.b5+ Kxb5 97.exd6 Kc6 98.d7 Nc5+ 99.Kd4 Nxd7 100.Nxd7 Kxd7 Endgame KRB-KR **101.Kd5 Ra5+ 102.Kxc4 Kc6 103.Kb4** Deflection **103...Rb5+ 104.Kxa3 Rb8 105.Rf2 Rb7 106.Rf4 Kd5 107.Rb4 Ra7+ 108.Kb3 Ra1 109.Rf4 f5 110.Rd4+ Kc6 111.Ra4 Rb1+ 112.Kc4 Kd6 113.Ra6+ Ke5 114.Rxg6 Rh1 115.Rg8 Ke4 116.Rd8 Rg1 117.Kc5 Rb1 118.h5 Rb7 119.h6 Kf3 120.Kd6 Ra7 121.Rd7 Ra6+ 122.Ke5 Ra5+ 123.Rd5 Ra7 124.Kxf5** c4 would kill now. **124...Kf2**



125.h7 9.97/23 Weighted Error Value: White=0.10 (very precise) /Black=0.08 (flawless) **125...Rxh7**

1-0

22 **C11**

□ **Rofchade** **3486**

■ **Stoofvlees Ii B1** **3511**

TCEC 23 Premier 2022 (42.4) 30.09.2022

[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Ng8 5.Nf3 c5N**

[5...b6 6.h4 Qd7 7.h5 h6 8.Bf4 Ba6 9.Bxa6 Nxa6 10.a4 c6 11.0-0 Nc7 12.a5 Ne7 13.axb6 axb6 14.Qd3 Rxa1 15.Rxa1 Nc8 16.Na4 c5 17.dxc5 bxc5 18.b3 Be7 19.Nh2 0-0 20.Ng4 1-0 Cheparinov,I (2576)-

Ivanov,Y (2395) IX It Elgoibar ESP 2004 (3) Ne8 21.c4 f5 22.exf6 Nxf6 23.Qg6 Nxg4 24.Qxg4 dxc4 25.Be5 Bd6 26.Bxd6 Nxd6 27.Nxc5 Qf7 28.Qxe6 cxb3 29.Qxf7+ Rxf7 30.Nxb3 Rf5 31.Ra5 Rxa5 32.Nxa5 Ne4 33.g4 Nf6 34.f3 g6 35.hxg6 ½-½ Cheparinov,I (2634)-Karlsson,L (2472) 15th ETC Gothenburg SWE 2005 (4)]

[5...Be7 6.h4 c5 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Qxd4 Nc6 9.Qg4 Bf8 10.Bd3 Bd7 11.a3 a6 12.0-0 f5 13.exf6 Nxf6 14.Bg6+ 0-1 Estrada Nieto,J (2248)-Goltsev,D (2216) Titled Tuesday intern op 28th Feb Early blitz 2023 (2)]

[5...Nc6 6.Bf4 Nge7 7.Qd2 Ng6 8.Bg3 Bd7 9.h4 h5 10.Bd3 Bb4 11.a3 Bxc3 12.Qxc3 Nce7 13.Qd2 a6 14.a4 Nf5 15.Bf4 Qe7 16.c3 c5 17.dxc5 Qxc5 18.Bg5 d4 19.Nxd4 Nxd4 20.Bxg6 ½-½ Kapengut,A-Ruban,V USSR 1974]

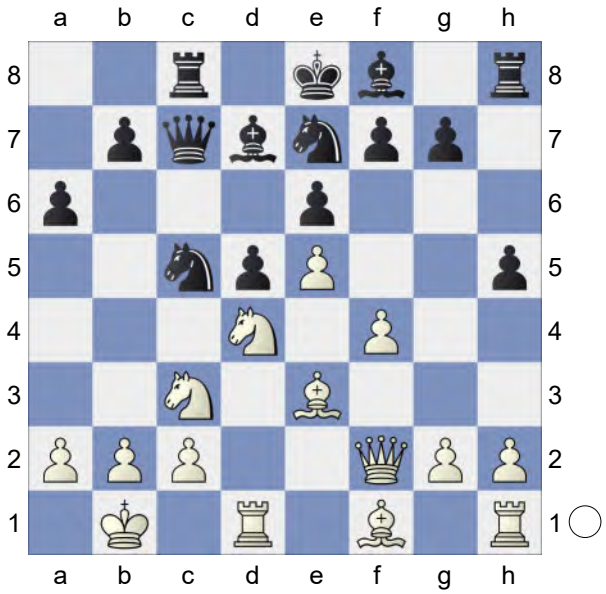
6.Be3 Nd7 7.dxc5! Nxc5 8.Nd4 White is better. **8...Bd7 9.f4 Rc8 10.Qf3** Against Ne4 **10...a6 11.0-0-0! Ne7 12.Kb1!** White is more active. **12...Qc7** 1.26/20

[⌓12...b5 0.80/20]

13.Qf2!± h5 1.34/21

[⌓13...Ne4 0.85/20 14.Nxe4 dxe4]

(Diagram)



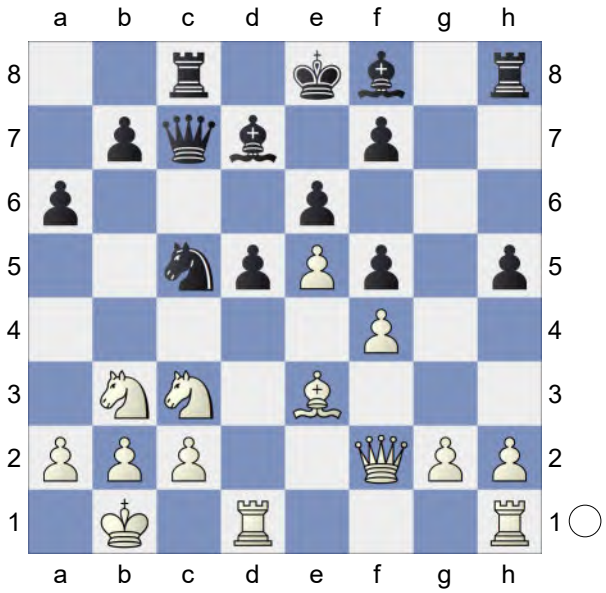
14.Bd3! g6 1.35/22

[⌓14...Nxd3 0.89/19 15.cxd3 *(15.Rxd3 f6=)* 15...f6]

15.Nb3 Nf5 1.94/25

[15...Ng8± 1.03/19]

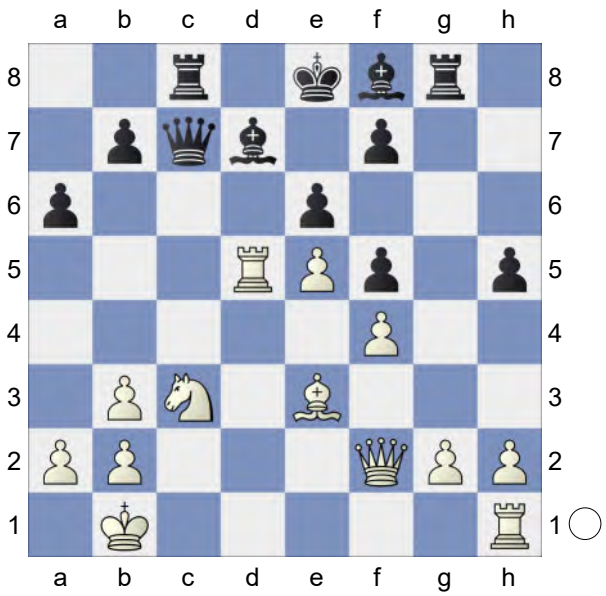
16.Bxf5+- gxf5



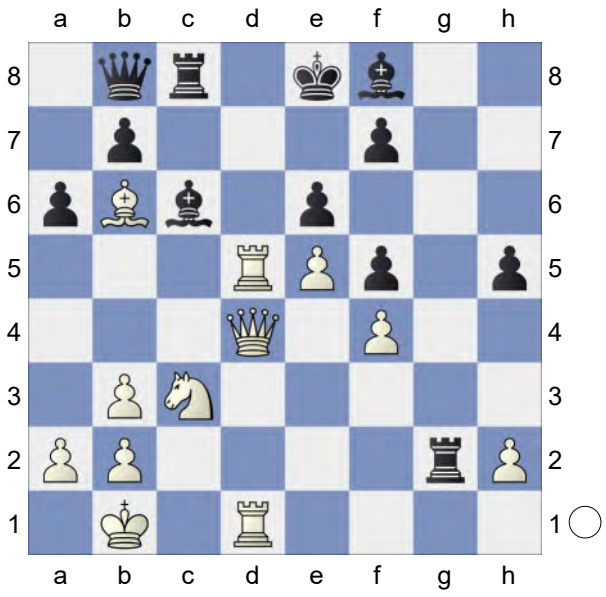
17.Rxd5! Nxb3 18.cxb3 Rg8? 3.75/26

[18...exd5± 1.21/25 19.Nxd5 Qc6 20.Nf6+ Ke7]

(Diagram)

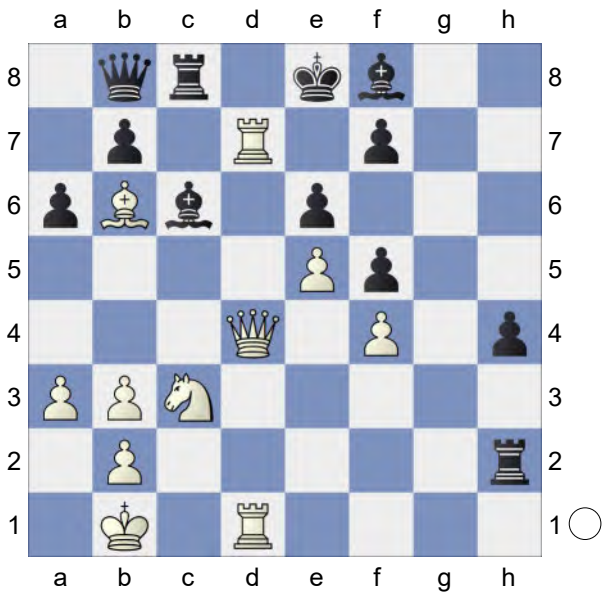


19.Rhd1! Bc6 20.Bb6 Rxg2 21.Qd4
[21.Qxg2? Qxb6 22.Rd6 Bxd6 23.Rxd6 Bxg2-+]
21...Qb8



22.Rd7 Rxh2
[22...Qa8 23.h3]
23.a3 h4 4.16/21
[⌓23...Qa8 2.89/19 24.Qd3 h4]

(Diagram)

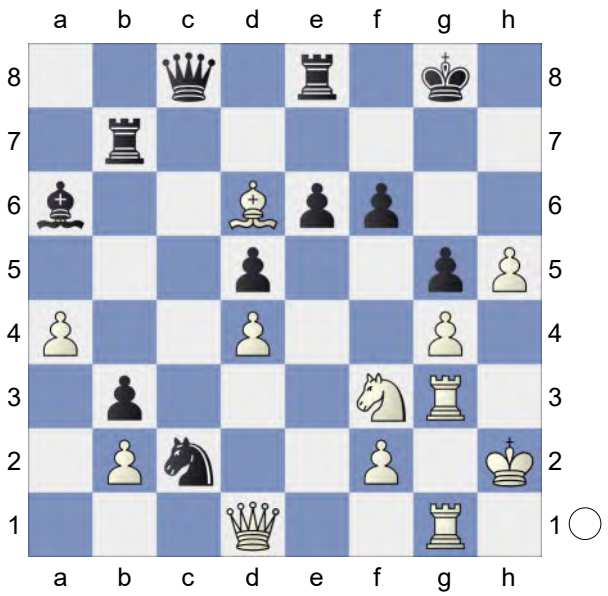


24.Ka2! Qa8 25.Na4→ White attacks with force. **25...Rc2?** 7.17/23
[25...Be7 26.Rxe7+ Kf8 *(26...Kxe7 27.Qd6+ Ke8 28.Bc5)* 27.Rg1+-]
[25...Rh1 2.21/17 26.Rxh1 Bxh1]
26.Ba5 Bxa4 8.88/23
[26...Rc4 3.85/18 27.Rd8+ *(27.bxc4 Bxa4 28.b3 Bc5+-)* 27...Rxd8 28.Qxd8+ Qxd8 29.Rxd8+ Ke7]
27.Qxa4 b5 28.Qd4 Bc5 29.Qd3 Rh2 30.Rc1 Rh3 31.Qxh3 Kxd7 32.Qxh4 Bf8 33.Rd1+ Ke8 34.Qh8 Bb4 would kill now. **34...Qf3 35.Rg1 Kd7 36.Qh7 Be7 37.Qxf7 Rf8 38.Qg7** And now Bb4 would win. **38...Qxf4 39.Rd1+ Ke8 40.Qg6+ Rf7 41.Qg8+ Bf8 42.Rd8+ Ke7 43.Ra8 Qxe5 44.Ra7+** Skewer **44...Kd6 45.Rxf7 Bg7 46.Qd8+ Kc5 47.Bb4+ Kc6 48.Qa8+ Kb6** Weighted Error Value: White=0.36/ Black=1.23 **49.Qb7#**
1-0

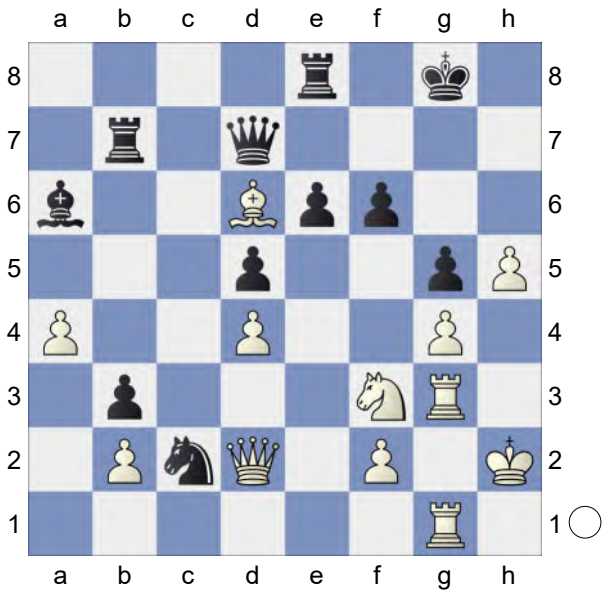
23 **C11**
□ **Stoofvleesii D2** **3479**
■ **Berserk13** **3540**
TCEC 26 Premier 2024 (33.4) 03.05.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Ng8 5.a3**
[5.Be3 Ne7 6.f4 Nf5 7.Bf2 h5 8.Nf3 b6 9.g3 Ba6 10.Bxa6 Nxa6 11.Ne2 Qd7 12.0-0 c5 13.c3 c4 14.h3 b5 15.Kg2 b4 16.g4 hxg4 17.hxg4 Nh6 18.Rh1 Rg8 19.g5 Nf5 1-0 Berg,K (2439)-Dworakowska,J (2382) Aarhus GM 2003 (6)]
[5.Qh5 c5 6.Nf3 g6 7.Qg4 Nc6 8.Bg5 Qb6 9.0-0-0 Be7 10.Bxe7 Ngxe7 11.Nb5 Nf5 12.Qf4 0-0 13.g4 Nfxd4 14.Nbxd4 Nxd4 15.Nxd4 cxd4 16.g5 Bd7 17.h4 Rfc8 18.h5 Ba4 19.Bd3 Bxc2 ½-½ Leisebein,V (163)-Bataille,B (127) Kortschnoj 70 rapid 2001 (3)]
5...Ne7N
[5...c5 6.dxc5 Nc6 7.Nf3 Bxc5 8.b4 Bb6 9.Nb5 Bc7 10.Bb2 Nge7 11.c4 Aaron,D-CBM 64 URS-ch Soviet Union 1983]
6.Nf3 h6 7.h4 b6 8.h5 White is much more active. White is better. **8...c5 9.Ne2 Nbc6 10.c3 a5** 1.18/22
[⌓10...c4 0.78/19]
11.Ng3± a4 12.Bd3 Ba6 13.Bc2 cxd4 14.cxd4
[14.Bxa4?! dxc3 15.bxc3 Qc7=]
14...b5 15.Ne2 Na5 16.Rh3! Nb3 17.Bxb3 axb3 18.Qxb3 Nc6 19.Qd1 b4 20.a4 0.90/19
[20.Kf1 1.29/19]
20...Na5 21.Kf1 Be7 22.Ne1 0-0 23.Kg1 b3 1.28/18
[Black should try 23...Rc8 0.79/18]
24.Nf4 Rc8 25.Qg4 Kh8 26.Bd2! Nc6 27.Nf3
[27.Rxb3?! Nxd4 28.Rg3 Nf5=]
27...Bc4 1.59/20
[⌓27...Qe8 1.01/20]
28.Kh2 0.71/19
[⌓28.Rc1! 1.59/20]
28...Rc7 1.86/19
[28...Qe8± 0.71/19 might work better.]
29.Rc1 0.84/18
[29.Rh1!+- 1.86/19 is more deadly.]
29...Bb4 1.27/19
[⌓29...Qe8 0.84/18]
30.Be3 Qc8 31.Nh4 Kh7 32.Rg1→ 0.92/18 White is out for blood.
[Better is 32.Nhg6 1.36/17]
32...Ba6 33.Qd1 Be7 34.g4 0.59/19
[34.Qxb3± 1.35/18 Qc2+ would now be deadly. Qb7 35.Qc2+ Kg8 36.Nhg6]
34...Nb4!± Hoping for ...Rc2. **35.Nf3!**
[35.Qxb3?! Nc2=]
35...Nc2 1.94/20
[35...Bg5!± 0.69/19]
36.Bd2+-
[36.g5 Nxe3 37.g6+ Kg8 38.fxe3 Rc2+ 39.Rg2 Rxg2+ 40.Kxg2 Bg5∓]
36...Bg5 1.98/19
[36...Rc4± 0.99/18]
37.Rhg3 Kg8 2.52/20
[37...Rb7± 1.19/17]
38.Nh3 f6 39.exf6! gxf6
[39...Bxf6 40.g5 hxg5 41.Bxg5±]
40.Bf4! Rb7 41.Bd6 Re8 42.Nhxg5 hxg5

(Diagram)

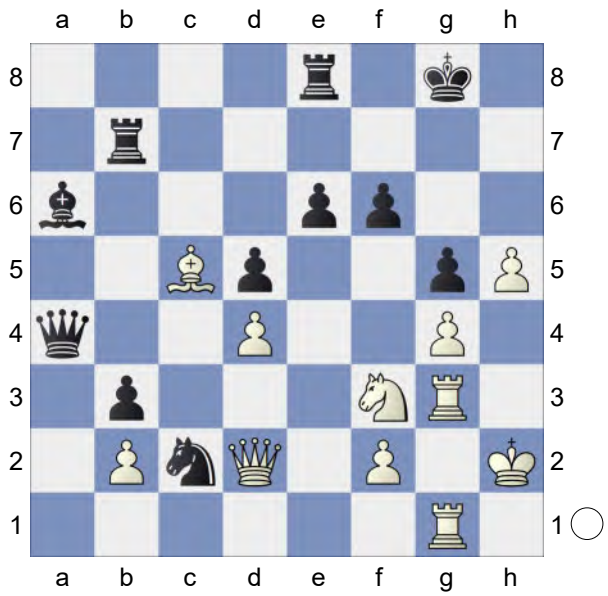


43.Qd2! Qd7 2.14/20
[43...Qc4± 1.38/19 44.Nxg5 Qxd4]



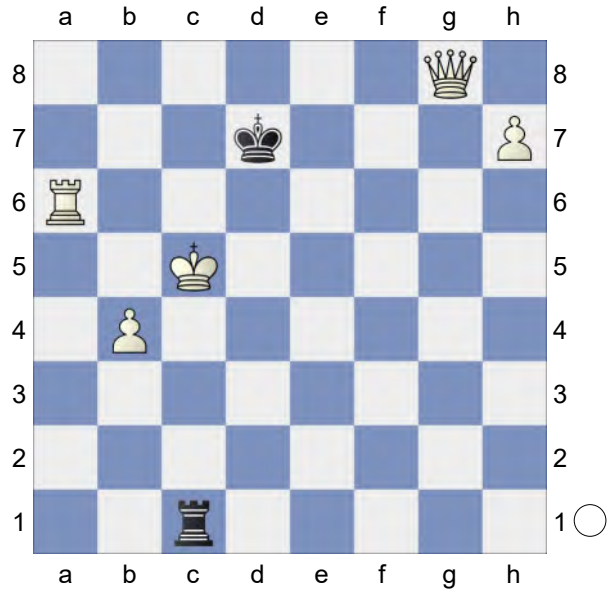
44.Bc5! Qxa4? 3.81/23
[44...Qc7 1.69/17 45.Ne1 *(45.Nxg5 fxg5 46.Qxg5+ Qg7=)* 45...Nxe1 46.Rxe1 e5]

(Diagram)



45.Nxg5! fxg5 46.Qxg5+ Rg7 47.Qe5 Rf7 48.h6 Qd7 49.Kg2
[49.Rxb3 Rxf2+ 50.Rg2 Qf7∓]
49...Rd8 50.Rxb3
[50.g5 Rf5 51.h7+ Qxh7 52.Qxe6+ Qf7 53.Qxf7+ *(53.Qxa6?* gets mated. *Rxf2+ 54.Kh1 Qh5+)* 53...Kxf7-+]
50...Qc7? 6.22/21
[50...Kh7 3.73/22 51.Rc1 Rg8]
51.Qxc7
[Weaker is 51.Qxe6 Qf4=]
51...Rxc7 52.Rc3 e5 53.Rxc2 exd4 54.Ra1 Bd3 55.Rcc1 Rdc8 56.b4 Be2 57.g5 Kh7 58.f4 Bd3 59.Kg3 Bf5 60.Re1 Be4 61.Bxd4 Rd7 62.Kg4 Rf8 63.Bf6 Kg8 64.f5 Kf7 65.Ra6 24.73/19
[⌓65.h7 #16/24 Re7 66.Bxe7 *(66.h8R Rxh8 67.Bxh8 Ke8+-; 66.h8N+ Kg8+-)* 66...Kxe7 67.g6 Kf6 68.Ra6+ Ke5 69.g7 Rxf5 70.g8Q *(70.g8B Rf4+ 71.Kh5 Rf6 72.h8Q Kd4 73.Qxf6+ Kc4 74.Rc1+ Kd3 75.Ra3+ Ke2 76.Qf1+ Kd2 77.Qe1#; 70.Re6+ Kxe6 71.g8Q+ Rf7 72.h8Q Kd7 73.Qe8+ Kc7 74.Qb8+ Kd7 75.Qhe8#)*]
65...Re7 66.Bxe7 Kxe7 KRR-KRB

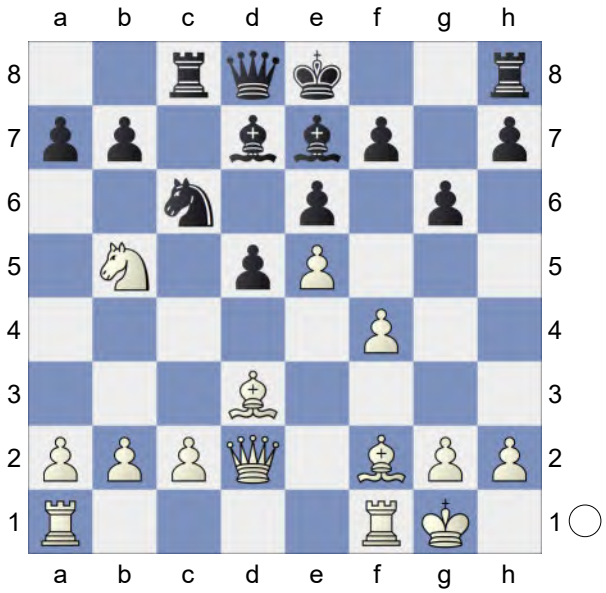
67.g6 37.88/18
[⌓67.h7 #12/21 Kd7 68.Rxe4 Promotion dxe4 69.g6 Re8 70.g7 Re5 71.g8Q *(71.h8B Re8+-)* 71...e3 72.Qf7+ *(72.h8R Re4+ 73.Kg3 Rg4+ 74.Qxg4 Ke7 75.Qg7#)* 72...Re7 73.Qd5+ *(73.h8Q Rxf7 74.Qg8 Kc7 75.Qxf7+ Kb8 76.Re6 Kc8 77.Re8#)* 73...Kc7 74.Qc6+ Kd8 75.Ra8#]
67...Re8 68.h7 Kd7 69.g7 Bxf5+ 70.Kxf5 Rxe1 71.g8Q Rf1+ 72.Ke5 White threatens Qg7+ and mate.
72...Re1+ 73.Kxd5 White mates.
73...Rd1+ 74.Kc5 Rc1+



75.Qc4!! Weighted Error Value: White=0.12 (very precise) /Black=0.40 **75...Rxc4+ 1-0**

24 **C11**
□ **TheUnrestrictedGod** **3345**
■ **DaBestFARMER** **2706**
Rapid 04.09.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.d4 e6 2.e4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Nxd4 9.Bxd4 Nb8 10.Bd3 Bd7N**
[10...Nc6 11.Bf2 Be7 *(11...g6 12.a3 Bd7 13.0-0 h5 14.Nb5 a6 15.Nd6+ Bxd6 16.exd6 Qb8 17.Bh4 Qxd6 18.Bf6 Rg8 19.Qe2* Chess Informant Eco-N,N Chess Informant ECO C5 2006*)* 12.Qh5 Qa5 13.0-0 g6 14.Qh6 Bf8 15.Qh3 Manor,I-Bauer,A Jugoslavija 81/(192) 2001]
11.0-0 White is much more active.
11...Nc6 12.Bf2 Rc8 0.99/20
[12...Be7± 0.57/19]
13.Nb5± g6 1.62/19
[13...a6± 0.87/19]
14.Qd2+-
[14.Bxa7? Nxa7 15.Nxa7 Bc5+ 16.Kh1 Bxa7-+]
14...Be7 2.30/18
[14...Nb4± 1.27/19]

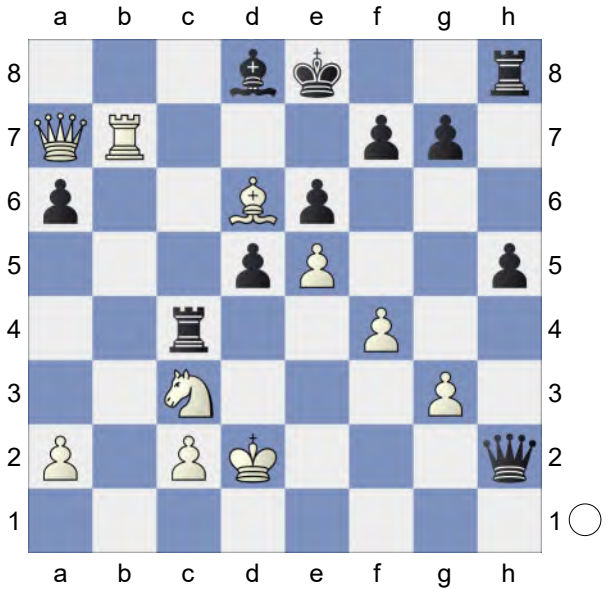


15.Nd6+!
[15.Bxa7? is the wrong capture. Nxa7 16.Nxa7 Qb6+ *(16...Bc5+? 17.Kh1-+)* 17.Kh1 *(17.Qf2? Bc5-+* Pin *)* 17...Qxa7-+]

15...Bxd6 16.exd6 f6? 3.46/19
Black is weak on the dark squares
[16...Qa5 1.78/17 keeps fighting. 17.c3 0-0]
17.b4 a5 18.a3 axb4 19.axb4 b5 20.Bxb5 0-0 21.c4 Be8 22.Ba6 Ra8 23.c5 Rb8 24.b5 Bd7 25.bxc6 Bc8 26.c7 Bxa6 27.cxd8R Rc8 28.Rxf8+ Kxf8 29.Rxa6 White mates. **29...Kg8 30.Qb2 h5 31.Ra7 g5 32.Qb7 h4** Black got outplayed after the opening. Weighted Error Value: White=0.08 (flawless) /Black=1.44 **33.Qxc8#**
1-0

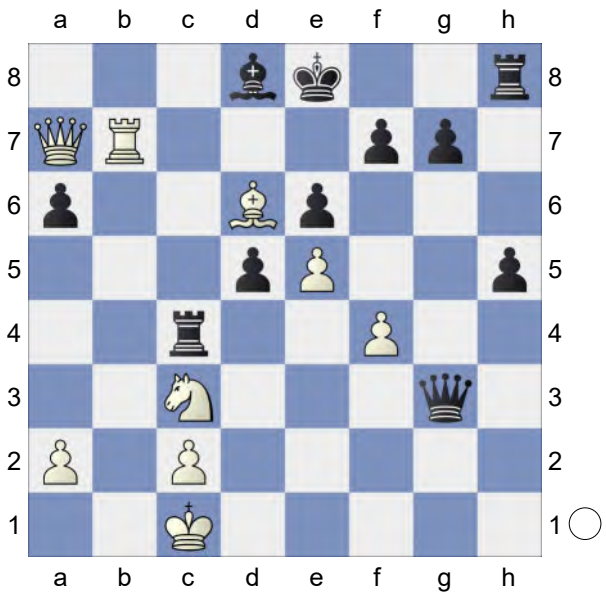
25 **C11**
□ **Spiritofthenewyear** **3343**
■ **admonitor** **2848**
Rapid 22.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 8min C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Qb6 9.Qd2 Qxb2 10.Rb1 Qa3 11.Bb5! Nxd4 12.Bxd4 a6 13.Bxd7+ Bxd7** White is slightly better. **14.Rb3 Qe7**
[14...Qa5? 15.Bb6+- *(15.Rxb7 Bb4∓)*]
15.Rxb7 Qh4+ 0.93/20
[15...Qd8± 0.47/24]
16.Qf2!± Be7 1.75/24
[16...Qxf2+± 0.76/21 17.Kxf2 a5]
17.g3↑ White has strong initiative.
17...Qh3 18.Kd2 White is much more active. **18...Bd8** 2.26/23
[18...Bc8± 0.77/20 is a better defense. 19.Rb2 0-0]
19.Rhb1 Black is weak on the dark squares **19...Bc6 20.Bc5! Bxb7** 3.81/20
[20...d4 1.87/20]
21.Rxb7 Rc8 22.Bb4N
[22.Bd6 Ba5 23.Kc1 Rxc3 24.Kb2 Qf5 25.Rb8+ Kd7 26.Qa7+ Bc7 27.Kxc3 25. Steinitz 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd-Steinitz 8.Nxd4 Qb6 - 11.Bb]
[22.Kc1 f6 23.Nxd5 exd5 24.Qe2 Rc7 25.Rxc7 Bxc7 26.e6 Bb6 27.Bxb6 0-0 28.e7 Re8 29.Bd8 Qc8 30.Kb2 g6 31.Qd3 Qc6 32.Qc3 Qb5+ 33.Qb3 Qc5 34.a3 Kf7 35.Qd3 Qc6 36.Kb3 h5 Karjakin,S (2771)-Agdestein,S (2628) 121/(89) Stavanger 2014 37.Kb4 h4 38.g4 h3 39.Ka5 Rh8 40.a4 Rh4 41.Qg3 g5 42.Qd3 gxf4 43.Qf5 f3 44.Qxf3 Qe6 45.g5 Qc6 46.g6+ Ke8 47.Qb3 Rg4 48.g7 f5 49.g8Q+ Rxg8 50.Qxh3 Qe6 51.Bb6 Kxe7 10.♗a3 b6 11.ba5 ♘h5_1525 (2771)-Brandt,C (2628) Lazne Bohdanec 1994]
22...Rc4 23.Bd6 h5? 5.42/25
[23...Rc6± 1.30/18]
24.Qa7! Qxh2+

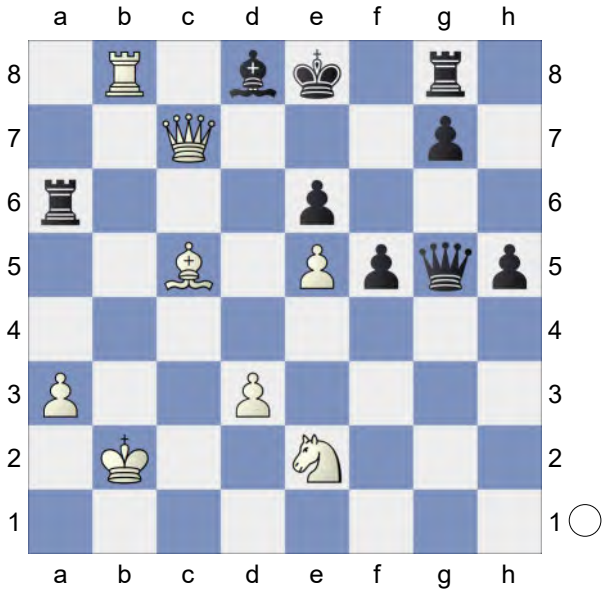


25.Kc1! Qxg3

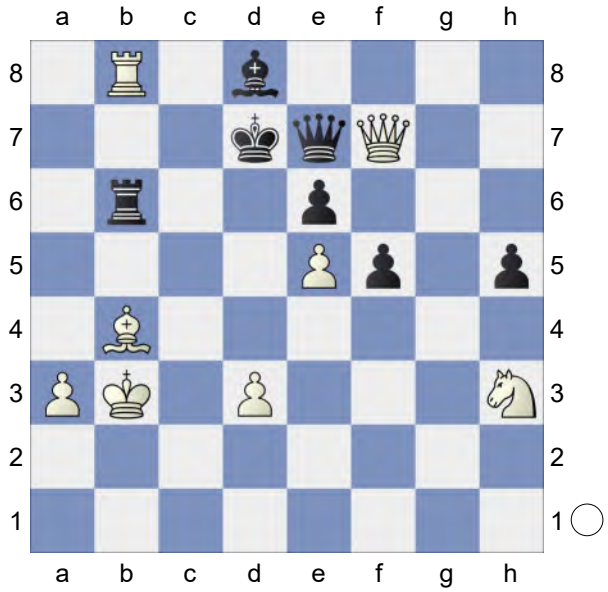
(Diagram)



26.Rb8! Qxf4+
[26...Rxc3 27.Qe7#]
27.Kb2 Qh4 7.53/23 Inhibits Qe7+.
[27...Qg5 2.57/24]
28.Qxa6 f5 29.Qa7 Rg8 30.a3 d4 31.Ne2 Kb3 is the strong threat. **31...d3 32.cxd3 Ra4 33.Qc7 Ra6 34.Bc5** 9.04/22
[Not 34.Qc8 Rxd6 35.exd6 Kf7 36.Qd7+ Kg6=]
[⌓34.Bb4 19.38/26 f4 35.Nxf4 Back Rank]
34...Qg5



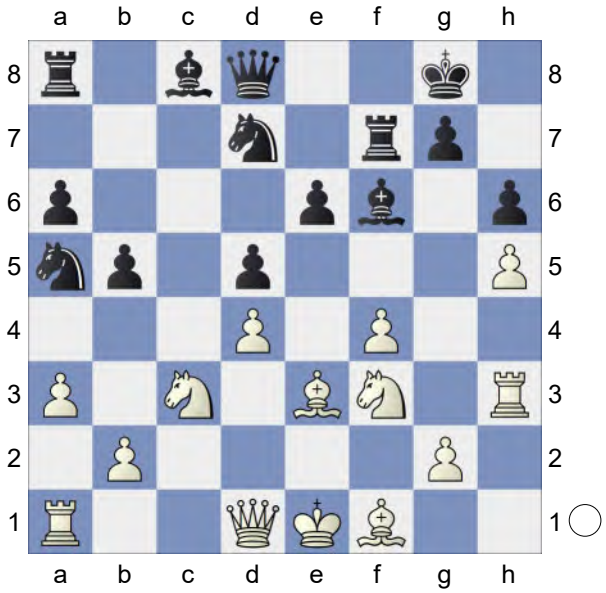
35.Nf4! Intending Qb7 and mate. Deflection, Back Rank **35...Rh8 36.Kb3**
[36.Qc8 Qxf4 37.Qxd8+ *(37.Qxa6? Qxe5+ 38.Ka2 Qxc5-+)* 37...Kf7 38.Qxh8 Qxe5+ 39.Kb3 Kg6 40.Qe8+ Kg5 41.Be7+ Kh6±]
36...Rh6 37.Bb4 Rh8 38.Nh3 Deflection **38...Qh4 39.Qxg7 Rh7 40.Qxh7 Rb6 41.Qg8+ Kd7 42.Qf7+ Qe7**



43.Rxd8+! Kxd8 44.Qxe7+ Kc8 45.Nf4 Kb8 46.Kc4 h4 47.Bd6+ Ka8? #5/12
[47...Kc8= 0.00/5 48.Qc7#]
48.Qd8+ White mates. **48...Ka7 49.Bc5 Kb7 50.Bxb6 h3 51.Qc7+ Ka6** White took control after the opening. Weighted Error Value: White=0.11 (very precise) /Black=1.06 **52.Qa7#**
1-0

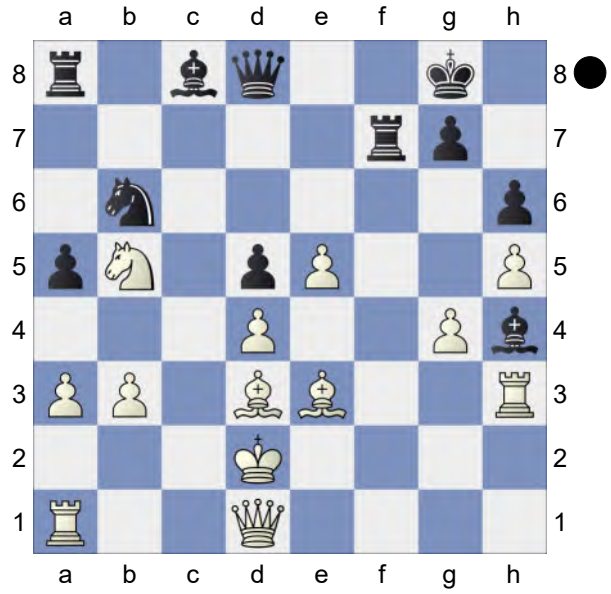
26 **C11**
□ **IR_AVanGaRD** **3287**
■ **PatriciaBot** **2869**
Rapid 29.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 7min+2sec C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.Ne2 Qb6** 0.58/19
[8...Be7= 0.22/18]
9.Qc1!± Be7 10.c3 White is slightly better. **10...f6 11.h4 0-0 12.h5 h6 13.Rh3 cxd4N**
[13...Qa5 14.Kf2 *(14.Bd2 Qd8 15.Qc2 Rf7 16.0-0-0 b5 17.g4 c4 18.Rg3 b4 19.g5 bxc3 20.Bxc3 fxg5 21.fxg5 hxg5 22.Bh3 Nf8 23.Rdg1 Nh7 24.Qg6 Nf8 25.Qc2 Nh7 26.h6 Rb8 27.Bg4 Qf8 28.Qg6 Bb4* 1-0 Santos Latasa,J (2650)-Bluebaum,M (2668) Bundesliga 2324 2023 (7.3) *)* 14...cxd4 15.cxd4 fxe5 16.fxe5 Ndxe5 17.dxe5 Nxe5 18.Kg1 Ng4 19.Rg3 e5 20.Rxg4 Bxg4 21.Nxe5 Bxh5 22.Nf4 Rac8 23.Qe1 Qxe1 24.Rxe1 Bb4 25.Rb1 d4 26.Bc1 Bf7 27.Nxf7 Rxf7 28.g3 0-1 Aronian,L (2781)-Bluebaum,M (2670) chess24.com (Internet-rapid) 2021]
[13...Rf7 14.a3 *(14.Qc2 cxd4 15.Bxd4 Qc7 16.exf6 Nxd4 17.Nexd4 Rxf6 18.f5 Nc5 19.Nh4 Rf7 20.Ndf3 e5 21.g4 e4 22.Nd4 Qf4 23.Ng6 Qxg4 24.Qh2 Nd3+ 25.Bxd3 exd3 26.Re3 d2+ 27.Qxd2 Bh4+ 28.Nxh4 Qxh4+* ½-½ Ivic,V (2599)-Di Berardino,D (2472) Olympiad-45 Budapest 2024 (5.13)*)* 14...cxd4 15.cxd4 Na5 16.Qc2 Nc4 17.Bc1 Qa5+ 18.Kd1 fxe5 19.fxe5 Ndb6 20.b3 Bd7 21.Qc3 Qxc3 22.Nxc3 Na5 23.Kc2 Rc8 24.Kb2 Na8 25.Bd3 b5 26.Ne2 Be8 27.Bd2 Nc6 28.Rg3 1-0 Gurel,E (2624)-Vaishali,R (2476) Tata Steel-B 87th 2025 (12)]
14.cxd4
[14.Nexd4 is interesting. fxe5 15.Nxc6 Qxc6 16.fxe5 Rxf3 17.gxf3 Nxe5 18.Qc2]
14...Qd8 15.Qd1 Rf7 16.a3 Na5 0.71/18
[16...Nb6= 0.28/20 is superior.]
17.Nc3± b5 0.97/20
[17...fxe5± 0.44/21 18.fxe5 *(18.dxe5 Nc4=)* 18...b5]
18.exf6 White is more active. **18...Bxf6**



19.g4! Nb6 20.b3 Against Nbc4 **20...Nc6! 21.Bd3 e5** Deflection **22.Nxe5**
[22.dxe5 Bxg4∓]
22...Nxe5 23.fxe5
[23.dxe5 Bh4+ 24.Rxh4 Qxh4+ 25.Bf2 Qh2 *(25...Qxg4? 26.Qxg4 Bxg4 27.Bxb6+-)* 26.Bxb6 Rxf4∓ *(26...Qxf4 27.Bg6±)*]
23...Bh4+ 1.89/19
[Black should play 23...Be7!± 0.55/17]
24.Kd2+- a5 2.48/19

[24...Be7± 1.37/18]
25.Nxb5



a4 aiming for ...axb3. **26.b4 Be7** Dodges Nd6 **27.Rc1 Qf8 28.Qg1** This move loses the game for Black. **28...Nc4+?** 3.41/20
[28...Rb8± 1.51/17 29.Qg3 Nc4+ 30.Bxc4 dxc4]
29.Bxc4 Bxb4+ 30.axb4 Qxb4+ 31.Nc3 Qxc4 32.Qg2 Be6 33.Qe2 Qc6 3.32/19
[⌓33...Qxe2+ 1.86/17 34.Nxe2 Bxg4]
34.Qb5 Qc7 4.30/19
[34...Qc8 2.47/19 might work better. 35.Ne2 *(35.Nxd5 Qd8+-)* 35...Qf8]
35.Nxa4
[Less strong is 35.Nxd5 Qd8±]
35...Qd8 36.Qb6
[36.Nc5 Bxg4 37.Rhh1 Rfa7±]
36...Qe8 37.Nc3 Rb8 38.Qa6 Rfb7 5.49/18
[⌓38...Ra8 3.79/17 39.Qb5 Qxb5 40.Nxb5 Rb7]
39.Rg3 Rb2+ 40.Rc2 R8b6 41.Qd3 R2b3 42.Ke1 Rc6 43.Bd2 Qd7 44.Bxh6 Rc4 8.29/16
[⌓44...Bxg4 4.52/16 45.Bxg7 Qxg7]
45.Qg6 aiming for Bxg7!. **45...Qf7 46.Qxf7+ Bxf7 47.Ne2 Rxg3 48.Rxc4 Rxg4 49.Rc8+ Kh7 50.Be3 Bxh5 51.Kf2 Bf7 52.Nf4 Rh4 53.Kg3 g5 54.Rc7** White wants to mate with Ne6. **54...Kg8 55.e6 Rxf4 56.exf7+** White mates. **56...Rxf7 57.Rxf7 Kxf7** Weighted Error Value: White=0.09 (flawless) /Black=0.62 **58.Bxg5**
1-0

27 **C11**
□ **IR_AVanGaRD** **3283**
■ **duchessAI** **2868**
Rapid 29.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 7min+2sec C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Be7 8.Qd2 0-0 9.dxc5 Bxc5 10.0-0-0 Qb6 11.Nd4 Nxd4** White is slightly better. **12.Bxd4 Bxd4 13.Qxd4 Qxd4 14.Rxd4 Nc5N**
[14...a6 15.Be2 *(15.h4 b6 16.h5 h6 17.b3 Ra7 18.Kb2 Rc7 19.a4 Bb7 20.Nd1 Rfc8 21.Ne3* Chapter-N,N*)* 15...b6 *(15...Rb8 16.a4 Rd8 17.Rhd1 Re8 18.a5 b5 19.axb6 Nxb6 20.Na4 Bd7 21.Nc5 Bb5 22.Bxb5 axb5 23.Rb4 Nc4 24.Nb3 Re7 25.c3 Ra7 26.Re1 Ra4 27.Re2 Na5 28.Nd4 Rc8 29.Kb1 Nb7 30.Nxb5* 1-0 Gaikwad,M (1866)-Jval,S (1814) IND-ch U19 Ahmedabad 2023 (6) *)* 16.b3 Ra7 17.Kb2 Rc7 18.Nd1 Bb7 19.Ne3 b5 20.a4 bxa4 21.Rxa4 g5 22.Ng4 f5 23.exf6 Nxf6 24.fxg5 Ne4 25.Re1 Nxg5 26.Bxa6 Bxa6 27.Rxa6 Rf4 28.h3 h5 29.g3 1-0 Bok,B (2562)-Tiviakov,S (2639) ch-NED 2015 Amsterdam NED (7.2) Rf3

30.Ne5 Rxg3 31.h4 Ne4 32.Rxe6 Kh7 33.Rc6 Rxc6 34.Nxc6 Rh3 35.Ne7 Rxh4 36.Nxd5 Kg6 37.b4 Kf5 38.Kb3 Rh3+ 39.Kc4 h4 40.b5 Rg3 41.b6 Rg7 42.Kd4 Nd6 43.c4 Rg4+ 44.Kc5 1-0 Bok,B (2575)-Dreev, A (2679) EU-ch 15th Yerevan 2014 (7)]

15.h4 a5 16.Be2 Bd7 17.Rh3 f5 18.g4 fxg4 19.Bxg4 Ra7 1.09/18

[19...Kf7± 0.61/17 was preferable.]

20.Be2 Raa8 1.25/19

[⌓20...Be8 0.77/18]

21.a3± Na6 22.h5 White is more active.

22...Rac8 1.57/17

[⌓22...Rf7 0.96/19]

23.h6 g6 1.67/19

[23...gxh6± 1.24/18 24.Bxa6 *(24.Rxh6 Kg7=)* 24...bxa6]

24.Bxa6+- bxa6 25.Nd1 A mistake that costs the game. **25...Rc4** 2.69/22

[25...Rf5± 1.25/18 might work better.]

26.Rxc4 dxc4 Endgame KRB-KRN

27.Rh4 Rf5? 4.20/24

[27...Bb5 2.22/18 28.Ne3 Rd8]

28.Ne3 Rh5 29.Ng2 1.83/23

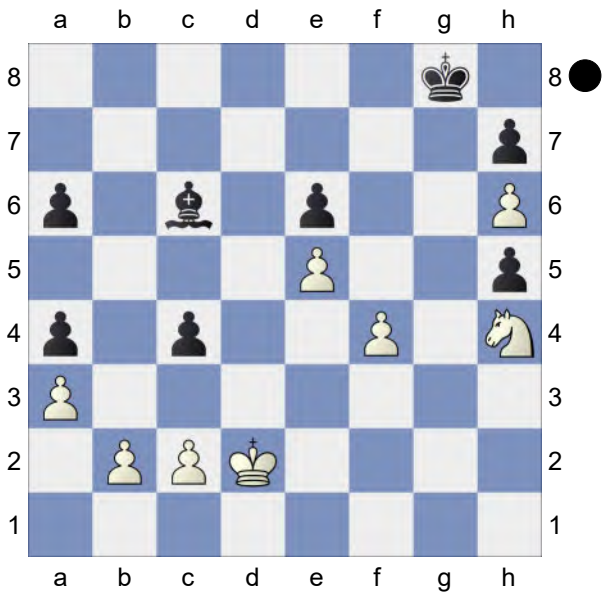
[⌓29.Rxh5 3.81/24 gxh5 30.Ng2 *(30.Nxc4 h4=)*]

29...a4? 4.32/30

[29...Rf5 1.83/23]

30.Rxh5 gxh5 KB-KN **31.Kd2 Bc6 32.Nh4**

(Diagram)



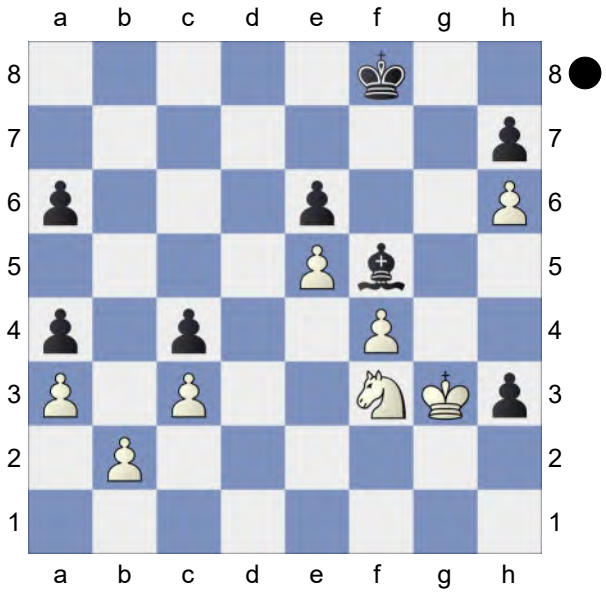
Be8 5.36/26

[⌓32...Be4 3.46/28 33.Kc3 Kf7]

33.c3 Kf8 34.Ke3 Bg6 35.Nf3

[35.Nxg6+ hxg6 36.Kd4 Kg8-+]

35...Bd3 36.Ng5 Bf5 37.Kf2 h4 38.Nf3 h3 39.Kg3



Ke7 8.09/29

[⌓39...Kf7 4.67/26 40.Kh2 *(40.Nh4 Bg4=* Promotion *)* 40...Kg6]

40.Nd2

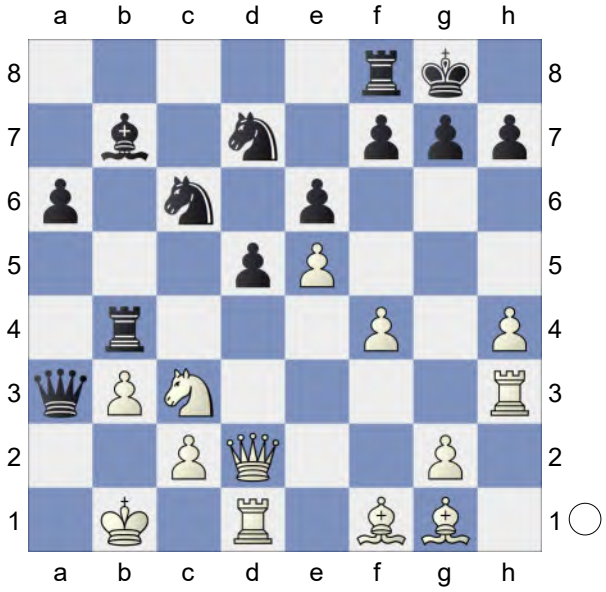
[And not 40.Nd4 Be4=]

40...Bd3 41.Kxh3 Kf7 42.Nf3 Kg6 43.Nd4 Bb1 44.Kg3

[44.Nxe6? Bf5+ *(44...Kxh6? loses. 45.Kg4+-)* 45.Kg3 Bxe6-+]
44...Kf7 45.Kf3 Bd3 46.Nc6 Kg6 47.Nb4 Kf5 48.Nxa6 Be4+ 49.Ke3 Bc2 50.Nc5 Bd1 51.Nd7 Kg6 52.Nf8+ Kxh6 53.Nxe6 Black must now prevent f5. **53...Bc2 54.Nd4 Bb1 55.Nb5 Bc2 56.Nd6 Kg6** Repels e6 **57.Kf2 Bb1 58.Kg3 Bc2 59.Nxc4 Bb3 60.Nd6 Kg7 61.c4 Kf8 62.c5 Ke7 63.Nf5+ Kf8 64.Nd4 Ba2 65.c6 Ke8 66.f5 Bc4 67.f6 h6 68.e6 Ba6 69.Kf4 h5 70.Ke5 Kd8 71.f7** Intending Kd6 and mate. **71...Kc7 72.f8Q** White mates. **72...Bc8 73.Qc5 Kb8 74.Nb5 Bb7 75.Qb6 h4** Weighted Error Value: White=0.14 (very precise) /Black=0.64 **76.Qxb7#**
1-0

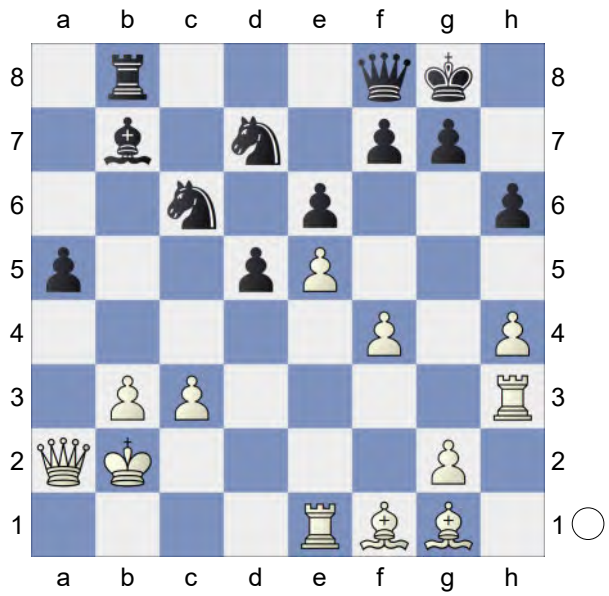
28 **C11**
□ **LeelaMultiPoss** **3275**
■ **BitByByte** **2856**
Blitz 03.08.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min+1sec C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.a3 cxd4 9.Nxd4 Bc5 10.Qd2 Rb8 11.h4 0-0** The position is equal. **12.0-0-0 Bxd4 13.Bxd4 b5** Strongly threatening ...b4. **14.Rh3 b4** 0.51/18
[14...Nxd4= 0.10/18 15.Qxd4 Rb6]
[14...Qc7 15.b4 f6 16.exf6 Nxd4 17.Qxd4 Rxf6 18.Ne2 Nb6 19.Rc3 Nc4 20.g3 Bd7 21.Ng1 Be8 22.Re1 a5 23.Nf3 axb4 24.axb4 Qe7 25.Rb3 Ra8 26.Qc5 Qb7 27.Bxc4 bxc4 28.Rb1 Bg6 29.b5 1-0 Esipenko,A (2714)-Bacrot,E (2642) 151/99 Berlin 2022]
15.axb4± Rxb4 16.Bg1 Qa5N 0.72/17
[16...Bb7= 0.21/17 17.b3]
17.Kb1± Qa3 18.b3 White now steadily converts the win. **18...Bb7** 1.01/20
[18...Rb8± 0.40/20]



19.Na2! h6 1.70/20 **20.Re1+-**
[20.Nxb4 Nxb4 21.Qe2 *(21.Bd4? Rc8-+)* 21...Qa2+ 22.Kc1 Rc8=]
20...Rb8 21.Nxb4 Nxb4 22.c3
[22.Bd4 Qa2+ 23.Kc1 Rc8]
22...Nc6 23.Qa2 Qf8 24.Kb2
[24.Bxa6 Ra8 *(24...Bxa6 25.Qxa6 Rxb3+ 26.Kc1∓)* 25.Bxb7 Rxa2 26.Kxa2 Nb4+ *(26...Na5 27.Ba6∓)* 27.cxb4 Qxb4∓]
24...a5

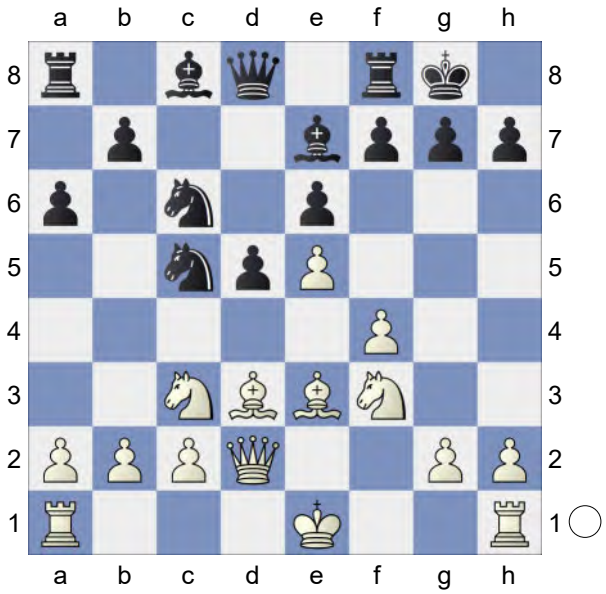
(Diagram)



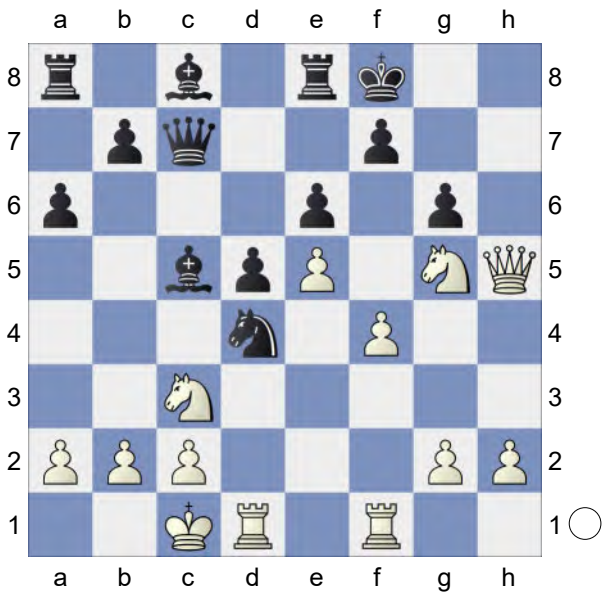
25.Bb5! a4 2.04/22
[25...d4± 1.40/20]
26.Qa3
[26.Qxa4 Ra8 27.Bxc6 Rxa4 28.Bxa4 Qc8 29.Bxd7 Qxd7]
[26.bxa4 Ba6=]
[26.Bxa4?! Nc5±]
26...Qd8 2.76/18
[⌓26...Qc8 1.80/20]
27.b4
[27.Bxa4 Na5±]
[27.Qxa4 Ra8 28.Bxc6 Rxa4 29.Bxa4 d4+-]
[27.bxa4 Ba6±]
27...d4 28.Ka1
[28.Bxa4? Nb6 29.Bb5 dxc3+ 30.Kb1 *(30.Qxc3 Nd5∓)* 30...Nd5-+]
28...Ne7 3.49/20
[28...dxc3 2.16/16 29.Rxc3 *(29.Bxa4 Nxb4* Discovered Attack *30.Rb1 Nd5=)* 29...Ne7]
29.Bxd4
[29.Bxa4 Ra8 30.Rd1 *(30.Bxd4? Bc6-+)* 30...Bc6-+]
29...Bxg2 30.Rh2 Rxb5 31.Rxg2 Nb6 3.51/19
[31...Nf5 2.25/17 32.c4 *(32.Qxa4 Nxd4 33.cxd4 Rb7±)* 32...Rb8]
32.Bxb6 Rxb6 33.Qc1
[33.Qxa4 Nd5±]
33...Qc8 4.56/18
[33...Rc6 2.92/17 was necessary. 34.Qc2 Rc8]
34.h5 Qc7 35.Rg3 Qc4 36.Qd2 Rb8 Inhibits Qd8+. **37.Qe2 Qc7 38.Qd2?** -0.01/16
[38.Rd3+- 5.24/19 Nd5 39.Qe4]
38...Nf5? 5.92/19
[38...Qc4= -0.01/16 and Black has nothing to worry.]
39.Rd3 Qc4 40.Rd8+ Rxd8 41.Qxd8+ Endgame KQR-KQN **41...Kh7 42.Qd2 Ne7 43.Rd1 Qb3 44.Qc1 Nf5 45.Rd2 Qc4 46.Qc2 Qxf4 47.b5 Qe3 48.Qd3 Qg1+ 49.Ka2 Qb6 50.Rb2 Kh8 51.Rb4 a3 52.Kxa3 Ne7 53.Kb3 Kg8 54.Qd6 Qb7 55.Qd8+ Kh7 56.Qd3+ Kg8 57.Rd4 Nf5 58.Rd7 Qb6 59.Rd8+ Kh7 60.Rd6 Qc5 61.b6 Qxe5 62.Rd7** b7! is the strong threat.
62...Qa5 63.b7 Active counter play!
[63.Rxf7 Qxb6+ 64.Ka3 Qa5+ 65.Kb2 Qb6+ 66.Ka2 Qf2+ 67.Kb3 Qb6+ 68.Ka3 Qc5+ 69.Ka4 Qc6+ 70.Ka5 Qc5+ 71.Ka6 Kg8±]
63...Qb6+ 64.Ka4 Qc6+ 65.Kb4 Qb6+ 66.Qb5 Qf2 67.b8Q Qb2+ 68.Ka5 Qxc3+ 69.Kb6 Qe3+ 70.Ka6 Qa3+ 71.Qa5 Qf3 72.Rxf7 Qxh5 73.Rd7 Qh1 74.Qe8 Qc6+ 75.Qb6 Qa4+ 76.Kb7 Qe4+ 77.Qc6 Qh4 78.Kc8 Qf6 79.Qexe6 Qf8+ 80.Kc7 White wants to mate with Qc2. **80...h5 81.Qc2** White mates. **81...h4 82.Qcxf5+ Qxf5 83.Qxf5+ Kh6 84.Rd6+ g6** Weighted Error Value: White=0.19 (very precise) /Black=0.68 **85.Qxg6#**
1-0

29 **C11**
□ **LeelaMultiPoss** **3271**
■ **BitByByte** **2826**
Blitz 25.07.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min+1sec C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Be7 8.Qd2 a6 9.Bd3 0-0 10.dxc5! Nxc5** 0.85/26
[10...Qa5!= 0.27/19 keeps the balance.]



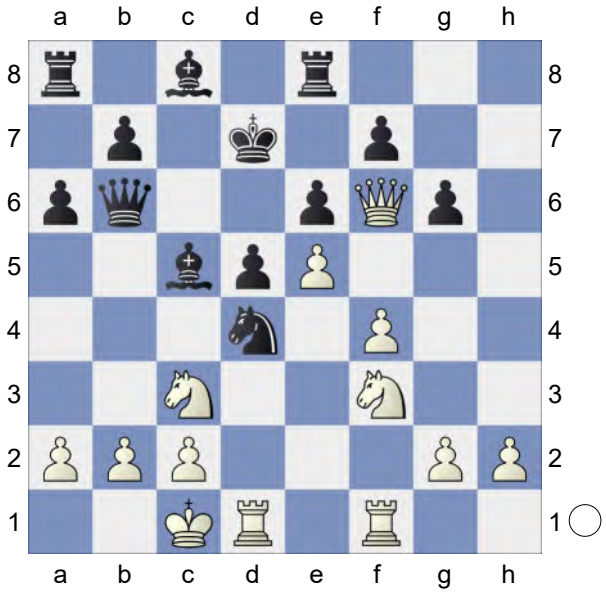
11.Bxh7+!± White is better. **11...Kxh7 12.Bxc5 Bxc5 13.Ng5+ Kg8 14.Qd3!** White has strong compensation. **14...Re8! 15.Qh7+ Kf8 16.Qh5!** White is more active. **16...Qc7** White now steadily converts the win. **17.0-0-0 Nd4N** 2.19/18
[Better is 17...Be3+± 0.63/20 18.Kb1 Bxf4 19.Rxd5 *(19.Qh8+ Ke7∓ 20.Qxg7 Bxe5 21.Nxd5+ exd5 22.Qxf7+ Kd8 23.Rxd5+ Bd7 24.Ne6+ Rxe6 25.Qxe6 Nb4 26.Rxd7+ Qxd7 27.Qxe5 Nc6 28.Qg3 Qd5 29.Rf1 Kd7 30.Qg7+ Ne7 31.Re1 Qc5 32.Qg4+ Kd8 33.b4 Qf2 34.Qe6 Nc8* 1-0 Cheparinov,I (2658)-Bluebaum,M (2668) Bundesliga 2324 2023 (3.5)*)* 19...Bxg5 *(19...exd5 20.Nxd5 Kg8 21.Qh7+ Kf8 22.Qh8#)* 20.Qh8+ Ke7 21.Qxg7 Bh4 *(21...exd5 22.Nxd5+ Kd8 23.Qxg5+ Re7 24.Qg8+ Kd7 25.e6+ fxe6 26.Nxc7±)*]
[17...Bd4 18.Ne2 Bc5 19.Rhe1 Ke7 20.Nc3 Bd4 *(20...d4 21.Nd5+ exd5 22.Qxf7+ Kd8 23.Qxd5+ Bd7 24.Qxc5 Bg4 25.Rd2 Qe7 26.Qb6+ Kc8 27.h3 Be6 28.Nf3* 23. Steinitz 7. Be3 Be7 8.Qd2-Steinitz 8.Qd2 a6 9. Bd3 O-O # *)* 21.Qxf7+ Kd8 22.Nxd5 exd5 23.Qxd5+ Ke7 24.f5 Qd7 25.f6+ Kd8 26.Qxd7+ Kxd7 27.e6+ Kc7 28.f7 Rf8 29.e7 Bd7 30.exf8Q Rxf8 31.h4 Bf6 32.Rf1 23. Steinitz 7. Be3 Be7 8.Qd2-Steinitz 8.Qd2 a6 9. Bd3 O-O #]
18.Rhf1!+- g6 2.97/19
[18...Nf5 19.Rf3= *(19.g4 Nh6∓)*]
[18...Rd8± 1.45/17]



19.Qh8+! Ke7 20.Qf6+ Kd7 21.Nf3

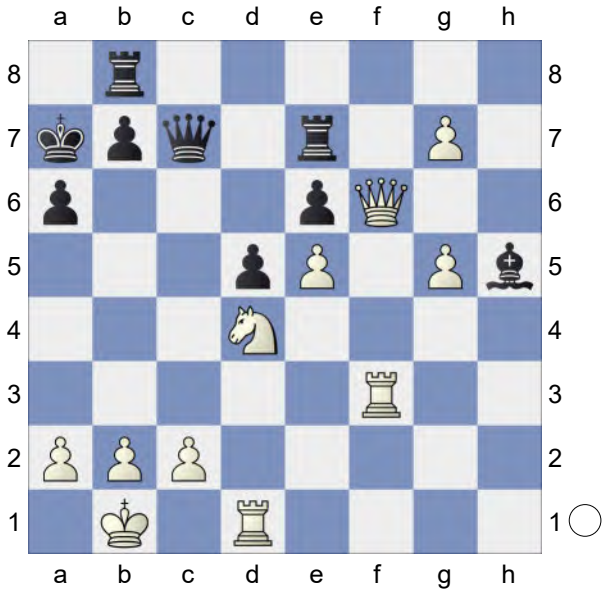
[21.Nxf7 Rf8 22.Qxg6 Qc6∓]
[21.Qxf7+ Kd8 22.Nxd5 *(22.Qxg6 Qc6=)* 22...exd5=]

21...Qb6
[21...Nxf3? 22.Nxd5 Qa5 23.Qxf7+ Kc6 24.Qxe8+ Bd7 25.Nb4+ *(25.Qxa8 Nxh2 26.Rfe1 Qxa2+-; 25.Qxg6 Nh4±)* 25...Qxb4 26.Qxd7+ *(26.Qxa8? Qxf4+ 27.Kb1 Nd2+* Discovered Attack, Double Attack *28.Ka1 Nxf1-+)* 26...Kb6 27.Qxe6+ *(27.gxf3 Qc4+-; 27.Rxf3 Ka7+-)* 27...Ka7 28.Rxf3+- *(28.gxf3 Qxf4+ 29.Kb1 Qxh2+-)*]



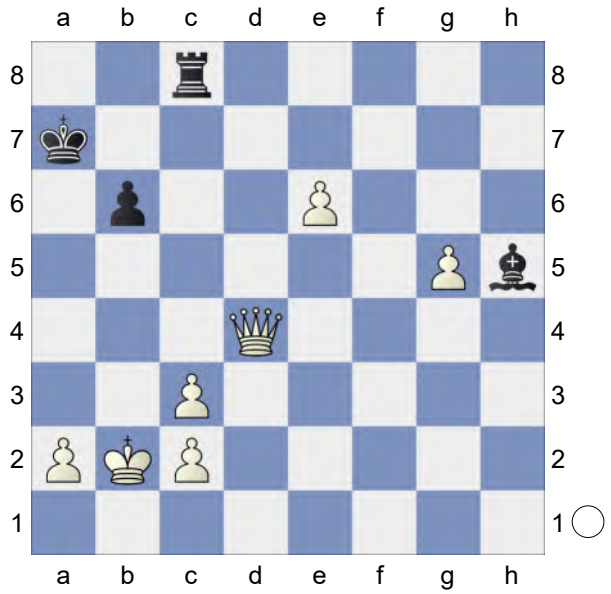
22.Na4! Ne2+ 23.Kb1 Qa5 24.Nxc5+
[24.Qxf7+ Be7 25.b3 Rf8 26.Qxg6 Rxf4± *(26...Nxf4 27.Qh6=)*]
24...Qxc5 25.Qxf7+ Re7? 3.52/20
[25...Kd8 1.63/18]
26.Qxg6 Kc7 3.84/20
[26...Qb4 2.67/18]
27.Qd3 Nxf4 28.Qd2 Nh5 4.64/18
[28...Ng6 3.30/19 might work better. 29.Qh6 Bd7]
29.Nd4 Ng7 ...Nf5 is the strong threat.
30.Rf3 Kb8 31.g4 Ne8 6.10/18
[⌓31...Rc7 4.29/17 32.h4 Bd7]

32.h4 Qc7 33.Qf4 Ka7 34.h5 Bd7 35.h6 Rb8 36.g5 Ng7 37.Qf6 Be8 38.hxg7 Bh5



39.Nb5+! axb5 40.Ra3+ Kb6 41.Rc3 Qxc3 42.bxc3 Rxg7 43.Rxd5 Rc7 44.Qxe6+ Ka7 45.Rxb5 Rc6 46.Qd7 Be8 47.Qe7 Ra6 48.Rb4 Bh5 49.e6 Rc6 50.Ra4+ Ra6 51.Rxa6+ Kxa6 Endgame KQ-KRB **52.Qd6+ Ka7 53.Qa3+ Kb6 54.Qd6+?** -0.01/21
[White should play 54.Kb2+- 17.93/24 aiming for Qd6+. Rg8 55.Qd6+ Ka7 56.Qd4+ Kb8 57.Qf4+ Ka7 58.e7]
54...Ka7= 55.Kb2 Rc8 56.Qd4+ b6

(Diagram)

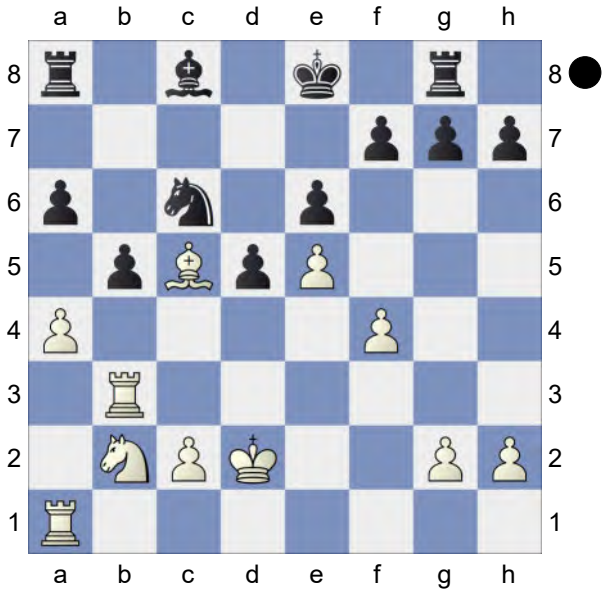


57.g6! Rg8
[57...Bxg6 58.Qg7+]
58.g7 e7 would kill now. **58...Re8**
59.Qd3 39.25/20
[⌓59.Qd7+ #13/25 Ka6 60.Qd3+ *(60.Qxe8 Bxe8 61.g8Q Bh5+-)* 60...b5 61.Qd6+ Ka7 62.Qc5+ Kb8 63.Qxh5 Rc8 64.Qxb5+ Kc7 65.e7]
59...Rg8+- 60.Qh7 Rxg7 61.Qxg7+ Ka6 62.c4 Bf3 63.Qd7 Bg4 64.Qb5+ Kb7 65.e7 Kc7! 66.e8Q Prevents Bd7. White mates. **66...Bc8 67.Qbc6+ Kb8 68.Qxb6+ Ka8** Weighted Error Value: White=0.03 (flawless) /Black=1.37
69.Qxc8#
1-0

30 **C11**
□ **colinbot** **3050**
■ **DarkOnBot** **2909**
Blitz 28.02.2025
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min+3sec C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Qb6 9.Qd2 Qxb2 10.Rb1 Qa3 11.Bb5! Nxd4 12.Bxd4 a6! 13.Ba4N -0.01/26 White is more active.
[13.Bxd7+± 0.67/25 Bxd7 14.Rb3 Qe7 15.Rxb7
A) 15...Qh4+ 16.Qf2 *(16.Bf2 Qd8 17.0-0 Qc8 18.Rfb1 Bc5 19.Bxc5 Qxc5+ 20.Kh1 Rd8 21.Ne2 Qf2 22.Rxd7 Rxd7 23.Rb8+ Rd8 24.Qb4 Qxe2 25.Rxd8+ Kxd8 26.Qb8+ Kd7 27.Qb7+ Kd8 28.Qb8+ Kd7 29.Qb7+ Kd8 30.Qb8+ Kd7* ½-½ Fromm,M (247) (2472)-Ozenir,E (2386) Wch U20 60th 2023 (10)*)* 16...Qxf2+ 17.Kxf2 Be7 18.Rhb1 Bd8 19.Ke3 Bc6 20.R7b3 0-0 21.Bc5 Re8 22.Ne2 Ba4 23.R3b2 Rc8 24.Bb6 Be7 25.c3 Bb5 26.Bd4 Rc4 27.Nc1 Rec8 28.Nd3 f6 29.Kd2 Kf7 30.g3 0-1 (66) Ferri,S (2731)-Ernst, H (2745) (m/1) 76/12 Las Vegas 1999 (1.7);
B) 15...Rc8 16.0-0 Qd8 17.Qf2 *(17.Qe3 Rc4 18.Rfb1 Be7 19.f5 Bg5 20.Qf2 exf5 21.e6 fxe6 22.Bxg7 Rg8 23.Be5 Bf6 24.Rxd7 Kxd7 25.Qa7+ Rc7 26.Bxc7 Qxc7 27.Qxa6 Rb8* 6) Steinitz - 11.Bb5 with 16.-17.Qe3 #2*; 17.Rf3 Rc4 18.Ne2 Qc8 19.Rb2 Be7 20.f5 exf5 21.Rg3 Be6 22.Rxg7 f4 23.Qxf4 Rxc2 24.h3 h5 25.Kh2 h4* 6) Steinitz - 11.Bb5 with 16.-17.Rf3 #2 *)* 17...Rxc3 18.Bxc3 Qc8 19.Rb3 Ba4 20.Bd4 Bxb3 21.axb3 Be7 22.c3 0-0 23.b4 Qc4 24.Ra1 g6 25.Qf1 Rc8 26.Qxc4 Rxc4 27.Rb1 g5 6) Steinitz - 11.Bb5 with 16.-17.Qf2 #3]
13...Bb4= 14.Rb3 Qxa4 15.Nxa4 Bxd2+ 16.Kxd2 b5 17.Nb2 Nb8 18.Bc5 Rg8 Black is weak on the dark

squares **19.a4** White has compensation. **19...Nc6 20.Ra1**



b4 21.a5 Bd7 22.h4 Rc8 23.Nd3 h5 24.Bxb4 Nd4

[24...f6 seems wilder. 25.Bd6 Nd4 26.Rb7 Rxc2+ 27.Kd1 Rxg2 28.Rc1 Ba4+]

25.Rc3 Rxc3 26.Kxc3 Nf5 27.Bd6 d4+

[27...Nxh4 28.Nc5 d4+ *(28...Nxg2? 29.Rb1+-)* 29.Kxd4 Nf5+ 30.Kc3=]

28.Kd2 Bc6 29.Nc5! Bxg2 30.Kd3

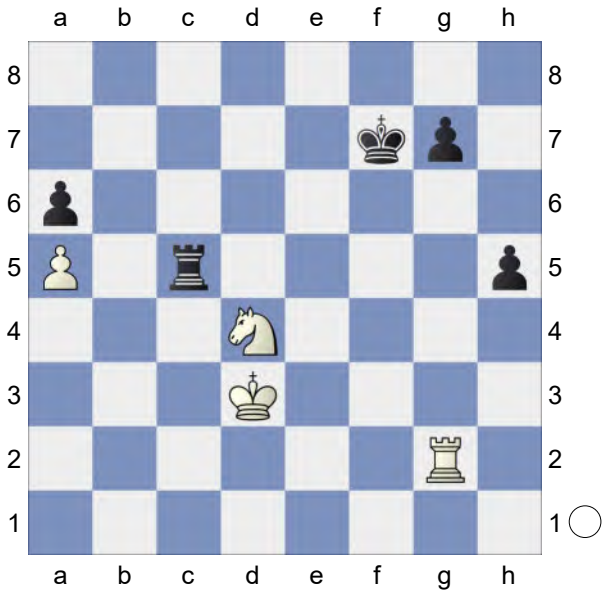
[30.Nxa6? too greedy. Nxd6 31.exd6 Kd7∓]

30...f6 31.Nxe6 fxe5 32.Bxe5

[32.fxe5 Nxd6 33.exd6 Kd7]

32...Kf7 33.Nxd4 Nxh4 34.c4 Re8 35.c5 Ng6 Hoping for ...h4!. **36.Rg1 Nxe5+ 37.fxe5 Rxe5 38.Rxg2 Rxc5**

(Diagram)



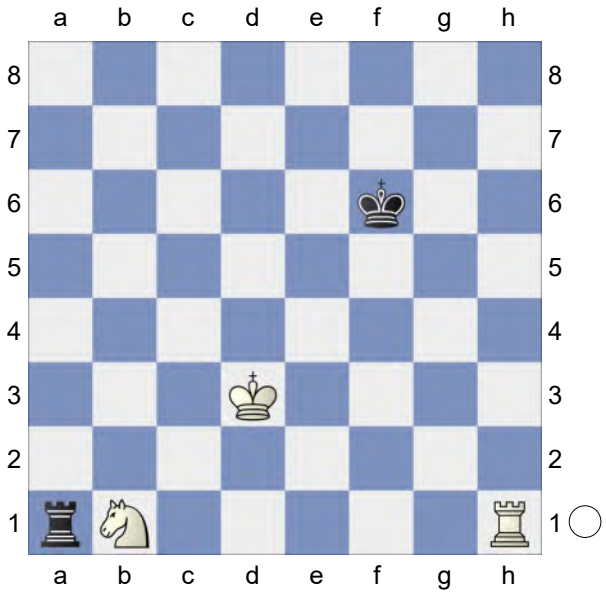
39.Rxg7+! Endgame Decoy. KRN-KR **39...Kf6 40.Rd7** aiming for Rd6+. **40...Rxa5 41.Nc2 h4 42.Ne1 h3**

[42...Rh5 simplifies 43.Rd6+ Ke7 44.Rxa6 h3]

43.Nc2 h2 0.22/16

[43...Rh5 -0.23/21 44.Rd6+ Ke7 45.Rxa6 h2]

44.Rh7 h1Q 45.Rxh1 Ra2 46.Na1 a5 47.Nc2 a4 48.Na1 a3 49.Nc2 Rb2 50.Nxa3 Ra2 51.Nb1 Ra1



52.Nd2 -0.22/18 **Rxh1 53.Nb3 Ra1**

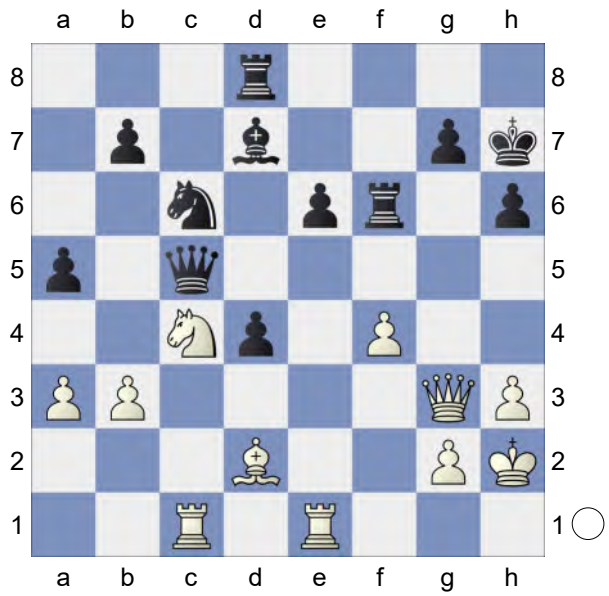
Weighted Error Value: White=0.06

(flawless) /Black=0.03 (flawless)
54.Nxa1
½-½

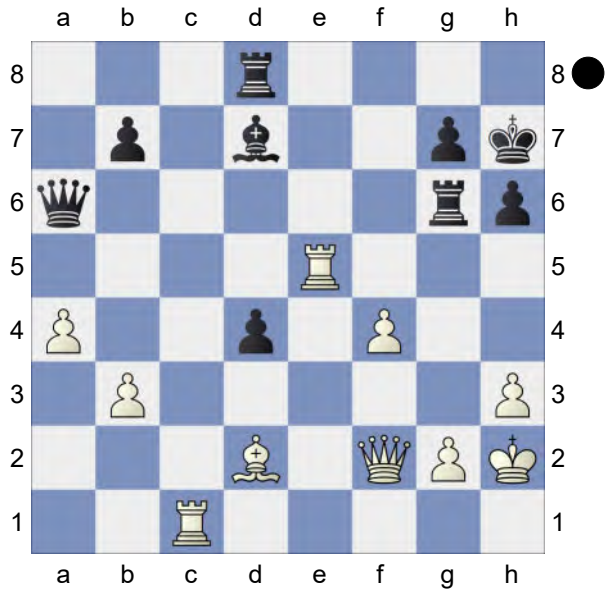
31 **C11**
□ **Vatsal_1123_bot** **3013**
■ **IntegralBot** **3000**
Blitz 27.02.2025
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min+2sec C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.Qd2 Be7 9.Bd3 Qc7N 0.63/18
[9...0-0= 0.10/17]
[9...b5
A) 10.a3 c4 11.Be2 Nb6 12.0-0 Bd7 13.Bd1 g6 14.h3 Qc7 15.Bf2 h6 16.Ne2 a5 17.c3 0-0-0 18.Bh4 Bxh4 19.Nxh4 Kb7 20.Nf3 Ra8 21.Bc2 Qd8 22.g4 Qe7 23.Ng3 b4 24.axb4 axb4 0-1 (63) Buchicchio,G (2753)-Hantel,T (2753) Amsterdam VSB 1993 (3.1) 25.Rxa8 Rxa8 26.f5 gxf5 27.gxf5 Ra2 28.Qc1 bxc3 29.bxc3 Qa3 30.Bb1 Qxc1 31.Rxc1 Rb2 32.f6 Na4 33.Bh7 Na5 34.Bg6 Nb3 35.Re1 Be8 36.Nf5 fxg6 37.Nd6+ Kc7 38.Nxe8+ Kd7 39.Nd6 g5 1-0 (63) Anand,V (2720)-Kamsky,G (2695) Sanghi Nagar (m/3) 61/343 1994;
B) 10.Qf2 b4 11.Na4 *(11.Nd1 Qb6 12.0-0 cxd4 13.Nxd4 Nxd4 14.Bxd4 Qxd4 15.Qxd4 Bc5 16.c3 Bb7 17.Nf2 Bxd4 18.cxd4 Ke7 19.f5 Nb8 20.Ng4 exf5 21.Ne3 g6 22.Rac1 Rd8 23.g4 Nc6 24.gxf5 Rac8 25.Rf4 g5* 1-0 (46) Macovei,A (2438)-Ozenir,E (2386) Texas Collegiate Finals 2023 (3.11)*)* 11...c4 12.Be2 0-0 13.b3 Bb7 14.0-0 Rc8 15.h3 Na7 16.Kh2 Nb5 17.Rac1 f6 18.Qe1 fxe5 19.fxe5 Qe8 20.Qg3 Qg6 21.Qxg6 hxg6 22.Nd2 Rxf1 23.Rxf1 Na3 24.Bg4 Nf8 0-1 (32) Dominguez Perez,L (2748)-Korobov,A (2650) Julius Baer GenCup Pl/In rapid 2024 (1);
C) 10.0-0 0-0 11.Nd1 c4 12.Be2 f5 13.Ng5 Nb6 14.g4 h6 15.Nh3 Kh7 16.Kh1 b4 17.Rg1 g6 18.Rg2 Rg8 19.Bf2 Bd7 20.b3 c3 21.Qd3 Qf8 22.Ng1 fxg4 23.Rxg4 Nc8 24.Qh3 1-0 (46) Beecham,C (2476)-Voveris,G (2415) corr MT-Zavanelli B (LTU) 2018]
10.Qf2± cxd4 11.Nxd4 White is slightly better. **11...Nc5 12.0-0 Nxd3 13.cxd3 0-0 14.Rac1 Bd7 15.Na4 Rab8 16.Nf3 Qa5 17.Nc5 Qd8 18.Qg3 Re8 19.d4 Rc8 20.h3** White is much more active. **20...Bxc5 21.dxc5 f5** Black is weak on the dark squares **22.exf6 Qxf6 23.Rcd1 Rf8 24.Bd2 d4** Dodges Bc3 **25.Kh2 a5 26.b3 h6 27.Rfe1 Qf5! 28.Ne5** 0.18/21
[28.Bc1± 0.55/18 is superior.]
28...Rcd8!= 29.a3 Kh7 30.Rc1! Rf6 31.Nc4! Qxc5

(Diagram)



32.Nxa5! Discovered Attack **32...Qb5**
[32...Qa7 33.Qd3+]
33.a4 Qa6 34.Nc4 e5 35.Nxe5 Nxe5 36.Rxe5
[36.fxe5 Rg6 37.Qf2 Qd3∓]
36...Rg6! 37.Qf2

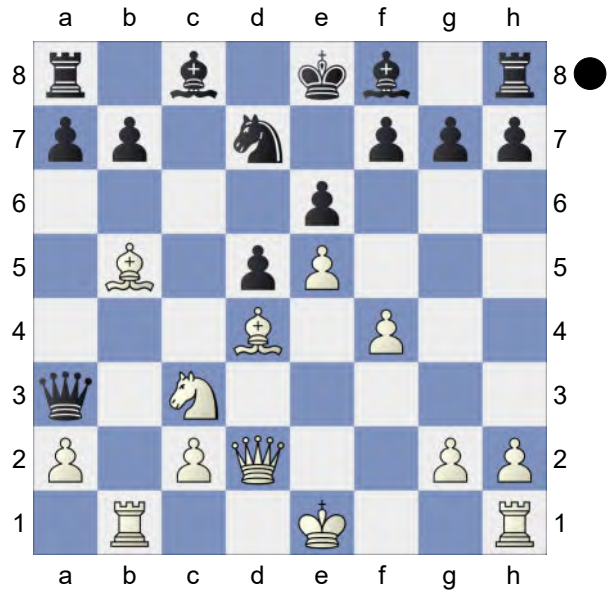


Bc6 38.g4 Qd3 39.f5 Rgd6 40.Rg1 Re8 41.Rxe8 Bxe8 42.Rg3 Qb1 43.Qf4
[43.Qe1 Qxe1 44.Bxe1 g6 45.Bb4]
43...Bc6 The position is equal. **44.Rg1**
[44.Qxd6? Qh1#]
44...Qd3 45.b4
[45.Qxd6? Qxd2+ 46.Kg3 Qe3+ 47.Kh4 Qxg1-+]
45...Rf6 46.Re1 h5 47.Re7
[47.gxh5? Rxf5 *(47...Bxa4 48.Re4=)* 48.b5 Rxf4-+]
47...hxg4! 48.hxg4 Kg8 (-> ...Rh6+)
49.Qf2 Hoping for Bg5. Some like it hot
49...Bf3
[49...Bxa4 simplifies 50.Qe2 Qxe2+ 51.Rxe2 g6]
50.Bg5 Rc6 ...Rc2 is the strong threat.
51.Re8+!
[51.Rxb7? Rc2-+]
51...Kf7⇄ Black is not holding back
52.Qa2+!
[Wrong is 52.Re7+? Kf8 53.Kg3 *(53.Rxb7?* too greedy. *Rc2-+* Pin, Discovered Attack*)* 53...Bg2+ 54.Kxg2 Rc2-+]
52...Rc4!
[Inferior is 52...Kxe8 53.Qg8+ Kd7 54.Qd8#]
53.Rc8 Bd5 54.Rxc4 Intending Rc7+ and mate. **54...Qf3 55.Rc7+ Kg8 56.Rc8+ Kf7 57.Rc7+ Kg8 58.Rc8+ Kf7**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.03 (flawless) /Black=0.06 (flawless)
59.Rc7+
½-½

32 **C11**
□ **ArasanX** **2993**
■ **Alexnajax_Fan** **2897**
Blitz 28.02.2025
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Qb6 9.Qd2 Qxb2 10.Rb1 Qa3

11.Bb5! Nxd4 12.Bxd4



a6 13.Bxd7+ Bxd7 White is slightly better. **14.Rb3 Qe7**

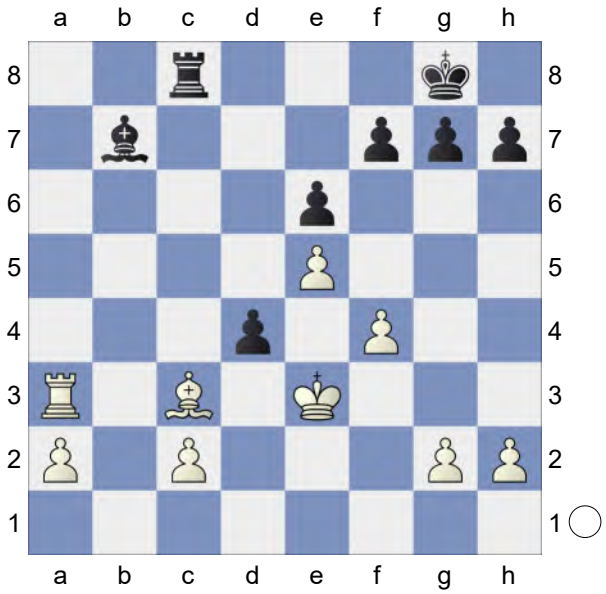
[But not 14...Qa5? 15.Bb6+- *(15.Rxb7 Bb4∓)*]

15.Rxb7 Qh4+ 16.Qf2 Qxf2+ 17.Kxf2 Be7 18.Rhb1 Bd8! 19.Rb8! Rxb8 20.Rxb8 0-0 ...Bh4+ is the strong threat. **21.Rb7! Bc6 22.Ra7 Ba5! 23.Rxa6 Bxc3 24.Bxc3±** Endgame KRB-KRB. White is a pawn up. **24...Rc8 25.Ke3** Black must now prevent Bd4. **25...Bb7**

[25...Bb5 26.Ra5 Bf1 27.Kf2 h5 28.Bd4 Bc4 29.a4 Kh7 30.Ra7 Kg6 31.a5 Rb8 32.Bb6 Rc8 33.Bd4 Rc6 34.Re7 Rc8 35.g3 Ba6 36.c3 Rb8 37.Bb6 Rb7 38.Re8 Kf5 39.Ke3 Kg4 40.Kd4 1-0 (66) Madaminov,M (2521)-Murzin,V (2657) Tashkent Al Beruniy-A 2nd 2025 (6)]

26.Ra3 d4+

(Diagram)



Discovered Attack **27.Bxd4 Bxg2 28.Rc3N** 0.23/22

[28.c3± 0.65/23 was preferable. Ra8 29.Ba7 Bf1 30.Ra5 h5 31.a4 h4 32.Kf2 Bd3 33.Ke3 Bf1 34.Kf2 Bd3 35.Ke3 ½-½ Vidit,S (2719)-Wei,Y (2726) Global Chess League Final rapid 2023 (2.3)]

28...Rxc3+= 29.Bxc3 Kf8

Weighted Error Value: White=0.04 (flawless) /Black=0.02 (flawless)

30.a3

1-0

33 **C11**

□ **cinder-bot** **2974**

■ **magnusglad_bot** **2909**

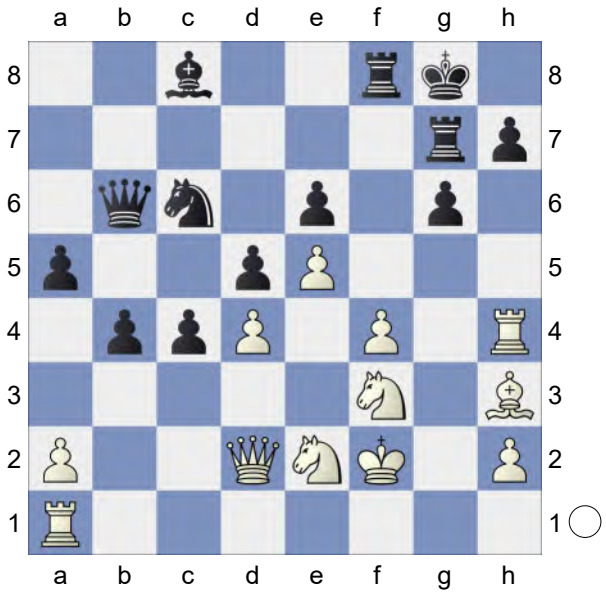
Rapid 27.02.2025

[Kitty Kat]

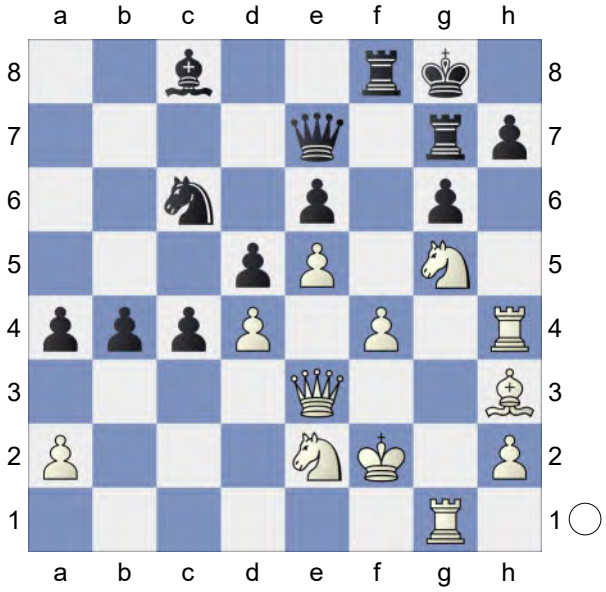
Blitz 8min+2sec C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Be3 Nc6 7.Nf3 Qb6 8.Na4 Qa5+ 9.c3 b6 10.Bd2 c4 11.b4 Nxb4 12.cxb4 Bxb4 and ...b5 should not be overlooked **13.Qc2**

Bxd2+ White is slightly better. **14.Nxd2 b5 15.Nc3 0-0 16.g3** -0.02/17
[White should play 16.a3± 0.61/22]
[16.Be2 b4 17.Nd1 Qb6 *(17...Nb8 18.0-0 Nc6 19.Nf3 Qb6 20.Qd2 a5 21.Nf2 Bd7 22.Rfd1 Rfc8 23.Ng4 Ne7 24.Ne3 a4 25.Rdc1 Rab8 26.Rab1 Qa5 27.Bd1 Nc6 28.Qf2 b3 29.axb3 axb3 30.Ng4 Qd8 31.Qg3 Kh8 32.Ng5* 0-1 (40) Badenhorst,C (1970)-Liu,Y (2261) Sant Boi de Llobregat op 5th 2024 (4) *)* 18.Nf3 f6 19.exf6 Nxf6 20.Nf2 a5 21.Qd2 a4 22.a3 b3 23.0-0 Ba6 24.Qc3 Rfb8 25.Nd2 Ne8 26.Bg4 Bc8 27.Qe3 Nc7 28.Nf3 Qd6 29.Nd1 b2 30.Rb1 Rb3 0-1 (87) Moiseenko,A (2707)-Nepomniachtchi,I (2714) Yaroslav the Wise rapid 5th 2014 (10)]
16...Nb8N 0.97/21
[16...b4= -0.02/17 17.Ne2 Ba6 *(17...Qb6 18.Bh3 a5 19.0-0 a4 20.Rab1 Nb8 21.f5 Nc6 22.Nf3 b3 23.f6 Qb4 24.Qc1 Rd8 25.fxg7 Kxg7 26.Ng5 Ra7 27.Qf4 Qe7 28.Qg4 Rg8 29.Nxf7+* 1-0 Lindberg,B (2382)-Okoth,J (2274) Interzonal Manila 1990 (4.3) *)*]
17.Nf3± Nc6 18.Kf2 b4 0.99/18
[18...f6!± 0.36/17]
19.Ne2 f5 0.92/18
[19...Qb6± 0.48/18]
20.Rg1 0.45/18
[20.exf6± 0.92/18 gxf6 21.Bg2]
20...Qb6 0.85/18
[20...Rb8± 0.45/18]
21.g4 fxg4 22.Rxg4 a5 23.Rh4! g6 24.Bh3 Ra7 25.Qd2 0.61/17
[25.Rg1± 1.02/19 Rg7 26.f5 exf5 27.Qc1]
25...Rg7 1.14/16
[Black should try 25...a4± 0.61/17]

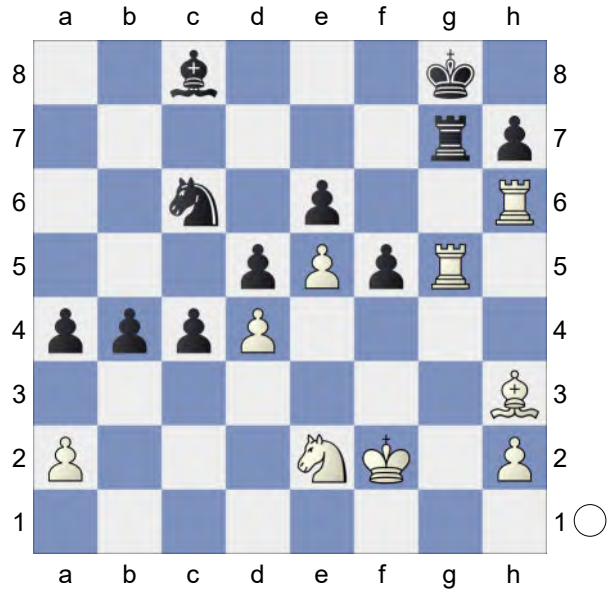


26.Rg1! a4! 27.Qe3 Black cannot hold the game after this. **27...Qa7?** 3.61/17
[27...b3± 0.80/18]
28.Ng5+- Qe7

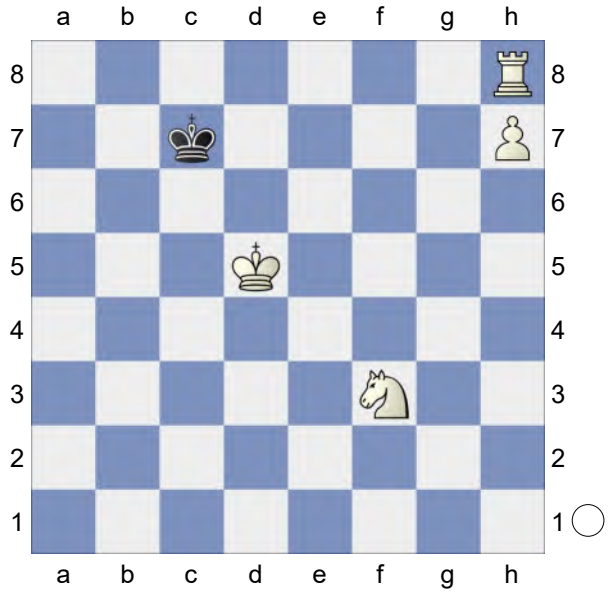


29.f5! gxf5 30.Qg3 Rff7? 4.41/21
[30...Qxg5 2.61/21 31.Qxg5 Rxg5 32.Rxg5+ Kh8]
31.Rh6
[31.Nxf7 Qxf7 32.Qe3 *(32.Qxg7+ Qxg7 33.Rxg7+ Kxg7±)* 32...b3±]
31...Rxg5 32.Qxg5+ Qxg5 33.Rxg5+ Rg7 4.90/20

[⌓33...Kf8 3.33/18 34.Rxf5 Pin Nxe5 35.Rxf7+ Nxf7 36.Rxh7 Kg8]



34.Rxf5! b3 35.Nc3 Rg6 5.45/20
[35...Bd7 3.41/17 was worth a try.]
36.Rxg6+ hxg6 37.Rf6 Nxd4 38.axb3
[38.Nxa4 bxa2 39.Rxg6+ Kf7∓]
38...axb3 39.Ke3 Nc2+ 40.Kd2 d4 41.Bxe6+ Bxe6 42.Rxe6
[42.Rxg6+? is the wrong capture. Kf7 43.Rf6+ Ke7-+]
42...Ne3 7.04/20
[⌓42...dxc3+ 4.40/22 43.Kxc3 Kg7]
43.Ne2 b2 44.Rxg6+ Kf7 45.Rb6 Nd5 46.Rb7+
[46.Rxb2 c3+ 47.Kc2 d3+ 48.Kxd3 cxb2∓]
46...Ke6 47.Nxd4+
[Worse is 47.Rxb2 c3+ 48.Kc2 cxb2 49.Nxd4+ Kxe5∓]
47...Kxe5 48.Ne2 Kf5 49.Rxb2 Strongly threatening Rb5. **49...Kg4 50.Rb5 Nf6 51.Ng1 Kf4 52.Kc3 Ne4+ 53.Kd4 Nd6 54.Rb6 Nf5+ 55.Kxc4 Ke5 56.Kd3 Nd4** Against Nf3+ **57.Rb8 Nf5 58.Nf3+ Kd6 59.Ke4 Ne7 60.h4 Kc7 61.Rf8 Nc6 62.h5 Ne7 63.h6 Ng6 64.Rf7+ Kd8 65.Rf6 Nh8 66.Rf8+ Kc7 67.Rxh8 Kb6 68.h7 Kb7 69.Kd5** Threatening mate with Rb8+!. **69...Kc7**



70.Rb8!! White mates. **70...Kxb8 71.Kc6 Ka7 72.h8Q Ka6**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.08 (flawless) /Black=0.60
73.Qa8#
1-0

34 **C11**
□ **cinder-bot** **2923**
■ **IntegralBot** **3000**
Blitz 27.02.2025
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 2min+2sec C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.a3 cxd4 9.Nxd4 Bc5 10.Qd2 Bxd4 11.Bxd4 Nxd4 12.Qxd4 Qb6 13.Qxb6 Nxb6 14.Bd3 Bd7 White is slightly better. **15.Ne2 Ke7 16.Nd4 Na4N**
[16...g6 17.Ke2 h5 18.h4 Na4 19.b3 Nc5 20.a4 a5 21.Ke3 b6 22.Rhb1 Rhc8 23.Rc1 Rc7 24.Rd1

Bc8 25.Nb5 Rd7 26.Nd6 Ba6 27.Bb5 Bxb5 28.axb5 Rb8 29.Rd4 Nb7 30.Nxb7 Rbxb7 31.c4 0-1 (51) Shevchenko,K (2649)-Carlsen,M (2859) MrDodgy Online Inv Finals 3rd blitz 2022 (2.4) Rbc7 32.Ra4 Rc5 33.Kd3 f6 34.exf6+ Kxf6 35.Kc3 Rdc7 36.Kd3 Kf5 37.Ra2 Rd7 38.Ke3 Rd8 39.Rad2 Kf6 40.Rd1 Rdc8 41.cxd5 Rxb5 42.R1d3 exd5 43.Rxd5 Rxd5 44.Rxd5 Rc3+ 45.Ke4 Rxb3 46.Rd6+ 0-1 (51) Beliavsky,A (2649)-Molina,R (2859) EU-ch 23rd Vrnjacka Banja 2023 (2.4)]

[16...Nc4 17.Bxc4 dxc4 18.Kf2 Rac8 19.c3 h5 20.Rad1 Rhg8 21.Rhe1 Rc5 22.Nf3 Bc6 23.Rd4 Bxf3 24.Kxf3 Rd8 25.Rxd8 Kxd8 26.Rd1+ ½-½ Ivanchuk,V (2619)-Bacrot,E (2640) Djerba Festival Masters 2025 (4.4)]

17.b3 Nc5 18.Kd2 h5 19.h4 g6 20.g3 Rhc8 21.Ke3 Rc7 22.Rag1 Rh8 23.Rg2 Bc6 24.Rb1 Bd7 25.Rh1 Rcc8 0.35/20

[25...Bc6= -0.01/21]

26.Rgg1 -0.01/19

[26.Rc1± 0.35/20 feels stronger.]

26...Rc7= 27.a4 a5 28.Rf1 Re8 29.Rh2 Rec8 30.Rg2 Rd8 31.Rh1 Rh8 32.Rhg1 Rb8 33.Rb1 b6 34.Rh1 Rh8 35.Rb1 Rcc8 36.Rf1 Bc6 37.Rb1 Bd7 38.Rh2 Rhd8 39.Rd1 Rh8 40.Rg1 Rc7 41.Rb1 Rhc8 42.Rg2 Rh8 43.Rh1 Rcc8 44.Re1 Rhd8 45.Rh2 Rc7 46.Reh1 Rh8 47.Rb1 Rb7 48.Rg2 Rc7 49.Rgg1 Ra8 50.Rbc1 Rac8 51.Rcf1 Ra8 52.Rb1 Rh8 53.Rh1 Rcc8 54.Rbg1 Rc7 55.Be2 Ne4 56.Bd3 Nc5 57.Ra1 Rcc8 58.Rhb1 Ra8 59.Be2 Ra7 60.Rh1 Rc7 61.Rab1 Ne4 62.Rbg1 Rcc8 63.Rg2 Nc5 64.Bd3 Kf8 65.Rhg1 Ke7 66.Ra1 Rc7 67.Be2 Rhc8 68.Rag1 Ne4 69.Bd3 Nc5 70.Be2 Ne4 71.Bd3 Nc5! 72.Ra1 Ra8 73.Rh1 Rh8 74.Be2 Rcc8 75.Rc1 Rc7 76.Ra1 Rcc8 77.Rb1 Bc6 78.Bd3

Weighted Error Value: White=0.06 (flawless) /Black=0.03 (flawless)

78...Bd7

½-½

35 **C11**

□ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2872**

■ **Aronian,Levon** **2775**

11th London Chess Classic (rapid) (2.4)

[Richard Palliser,TA]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4** White's modern move order and now Aronian was to come up with something quite rare. **5...c5 6.Nf3 Nc6!?** A new move for us, and also a rare one in general from Aronian. **7.Be3 a6 8.Qd2 b5 9.a3 g5** 0.83/21 **10.fxg5!?±**

[10.Nxg5 cxd4 11.Bxd4 Nxd4 12.Qxd4 Bb7±]

10...cxd4 11.Bxd4 -0.11/22 It's time for White to up the tempo if he wants to make anything of his spatial and slight development plusses.

[11.Nxd4]

[11.Nxd4± 0.87/22 Ndxe5 12.Be2]

11...Bg7 0.33/22

[11...Qa5!= -0.11/22]

12.0-0-0± h4 is in the air

[or if 12.h4 0-0 13.0-0-0 Rb8 A la their earlier game, but White might also hold back on this with 14.Ne2 Qc7! 15.Nf4 . And this was a

definite novelty. Two days before in their first classical game, Aronian had preferred Ndxe5 1.11/22 *(15...b4!= 0.01/20 16.axb4 Nxb4)* 16.Qc3? -4.75/24 and only then *(16.Bxe5 Nxe5 17.Nh5; 16.Bxe5± 1.11/22 Nxe5 17.Nh5)* 16...Nxf3-+ , after which 17.Bxg7 Qxf4+?! 18.Kb1 d4 19.Qxc6 Bb7 20.Qc5 Rfc8]

12...Bb7N 1.13/20

[12...0-0 1.02/24 12...Nxd4 0.12 13.Na2? -2.10/22 *(13.h4 -0.01/22* 13.Qf4 0.87 is very pleasant indeed for White*; 13.Qf4!± 1.02/24* is forced if you want to stay better.*)* 13...Nxd4!-+ 14.Nxd4 -2.00/19 *(14.Qxd4∓ -1.35/21 Nxe5 15.Qe3)* 14...Nxe5-+ 15.h4 when White's safer king position again grants him the upper hand. Nc4 -0.99/18 *(15...Qb6-+ -1.75/19* ...a5 is the strong threat. *16.h5 Nc4 17.Bxc4 bxc4)* 16.Bxc4∓ wins the exchange bxc4?! 17.Kb1 -2.30/20 *(17.g4∓ -0.90/20)* 17...Rb8 -0.99/19 *(17...Qb6-+ -2.30/20* and Black stays clearly on top. *18.g4 Rb8)* 18.c3 Qb6 19.g4 Rd8 20.Ka1 e5 21.Nf5 Bxf5 22.gxf5 d4 French-8.Qd2 b5 9. a3 Survey 2020 23.h5 e4 24.f6 e3 25.Qg2 d3 26.fxg7 e2 27.Rb1 Re8 28.g6 fxg6 29.Nb4 Kxg7 30.hxg6 Qxg6 31.Qf2 Rbd8 32.Rhg1 d2 33.Qa7+ Kg8 34.Rxg6+ hxg6 35.Qb6 e1Q 36.Qxg6+ Kf8 37.Qf6+ Kg8 Anand,V (2786)-Morozevich,A (2741) (blindfold) 95/(206) 2005]

[12...Nxd4! 13.Qxd4 Bxe5? 1.73/23 and only then ... Nd7 was likely more precise. *(13...Rb8=* 0.07/21 and Black stays safe.*)* AlphaZero-like play, although Leela's first choice is actually 14.Qe3+- Bxc3 2.55/21 *(14...Bg7±* 1.26/20 *)* 15.Qxc3+- , heading for d3. Aronian hits on the right retreat square for the queen, although it's not impossible he could have got away with 0-0!? 16.h4 1.39/18 *(16.Bd3+-* 2.38/20 *)* 16...Bb7± . This looks risky, but after 17.Bd3 Rc8 18.Qd4 1.23/18 *(18.Qd2+-* 1.87/20 *)* 18...Qc7? 3.38/23 *(18...Qb6±* 1.23/18 *)* 19.Rhe1+- a5 4.31/21 *(⌓19...Nc5* 2.82/20 *)* 20.Ne5? 0.23/21 *(20.h5+-* 4.31/21 *)* 20...Nxe5=

A) 21.Rxe5!? b4 22.Kb1= *(22.axb4 Ba6±)*;

B) 21.Qxe5 Qxe5 22.Rxe5 Black should be OK in view of b4! .]

[12...Nxd4!= 0.05/21 remains equal. 13.Qxd4 Rb8]

13.Re1 0.58/19

[13.h4± 1.13/20]

13...Rc8 1.32/22

[13...0-0 1.96/19 13...Qa5 0.75 14.Qf4 0.84/20 *(14.h4!+-* 1.96/19 *)*]

[13...Qa5!± 0.58/19]

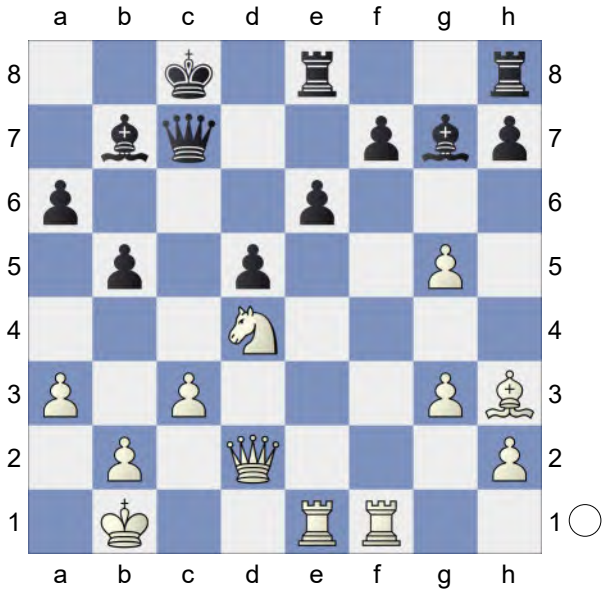
14.Ne2!? 0.48/23

[14.Nxd5? -4.96/21 14.Kb1 1.04 Nxd4]

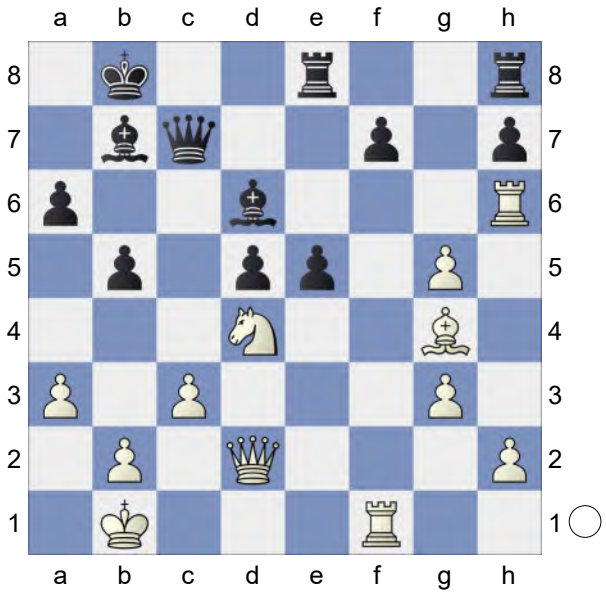
[14.Qf4 Nxd4! followed by ...Rc5 when White's kingside counterplay doesn't quite appear to be sufficient. *(14...Qa5* 1.40/21 14...Nxd4 0.89 , and if *)* or 15.Qxd4 Qa5 1.03/21 *(15...Bf8±* 0.40/22 *)* 16.Bd3 0.39/22 *(*Better is *16.Kb1!±* 1.03/21 *)* 16...Nc5 1.43/24 *(16...Bf8±* 0.39/22 *)* Carlsen is happy to keep making useful moves, but he actually might have grabbed: 17.Rhf1!± Black must now prevent Kb1. Bf8 1.53/23 *(⌓17...Nxd3+* 0.97/22 *18.cxd3 Bf8)*]

[14.h4± 1.32/22]

14...Qc7!
[14...Ndxe5? 2.57/22 14...Qc7 0.62 followed by ...Rcf8 with a decent version of a French Tarrasch for Black. 15.Nxe5 isn't at all natural, but is the engines' overwhelming preference. Actually White hadn't prevented
A) 15...Nxe5? 4.52/21 15...Bxe5 1.85 leaves the e-pawn taboo. Both players underestimated 16.Nc3! 2.22/22 *(⌓16.Ng3 4.52/21)* 16...Qd6+- 17.Qe2 , and if;
B) 15...Bxe5! and after 16.Bxe5 Nxe5! Black is at least OK, since 17.Ng3?]
15.Kb1
[15.Ng3 -0.32/22 15.Kb1 0.92 Nxd4! and c3-c4. The right recapture was 16.Nxd4 Bxe5 -0.01/23 *(16...Nc5∓ -0.45/24)*]
[15.Qe3 b4 0.39/22 *(15...a5= -0.01/22* deserves consideration. *)*]
15...Ndxe5?! 1.96/22
[15...0-0!± 0.43/22]
16.Nxe5?! 1.31/20
[16.Bxe5+- 1.96/22 Nxe5 17.Nf4]
16...Nxd4± 17.Nxd4 Bxe5 18.c3!? 0.68/19
[18.Qf2+- 1.66/22]
18...Kd7? 2.44/18
[Aronian wants to attack not allow Carlsen to improve his pieces with 18...0-0 19.Bd3]
[18...Bxh2? 19.Bd3+-]
[18...0-0± 0.68/19]
19.g3 Rce8 2.50/18
[19...Rcf8 1.91/19 19...Bd6 1.55 , although these were both possibly better options than the game.]
[19...Rcf8 1.73/21 20.Qe3 Bg7]
20.Bh3?! 1.08/21
[20.Be2!+- 2.50/18 is the precise move to win.]
20...Kc8?! 21.Rhf1 Bd6 1.36/20
[21...Bg7? 3.47/20 21...Kb8 1.03



22.Qf4!]
[⌓21...Kb8 0.93/20]
22.Rf6 Kb8!? 23.Ref1 White has more active pieces. **23...Rhf8** 1.60/19
[⌓23...Re7 1.00/19]
24.Rh6 Rh8 25.Bg4! Carlsen demonstrates that it's White, not Black, who can hope to attack on the kingside. **25...e5**



26.Nc2

[The queen achieves little here, but quite possibly Aronian's 22nd move was just too ambitious, since 26.Nf5 0.54/19 26.Nc2 1.60 Bf8 27.Rf6 0.28/19 *(27.Rh4± 0.81/20)* 27...Re6!= 28.Nh6 -0.01/19 *(28.Bh5± 0.38/20 Rxf6 29.gxf6)* 28...Rxf6= 29.Rxf6 Bxh6 feels rather risky for Black, and, likewise, 30.gxh6]

26...d4? 3.35/18 **27.cxd4+- exd4** 3.82/21

[⌓27...Bf8 2.32/18]

28.Bf5 1.57/16

[28.Qxd4 Be5 29.Qf2 Qc4±]

[28.Nxd4 Rd8+-]

[28.Bf3+- 3.82/21 is more deadly.]

28...Bf8? 3.31/20

[28...d3± 1.57/16]

29.Rxh7! Rxh7 30.Bxh7 Bg7? 3.82/20

[30...d3 2.26/18]

31.Bd3!

[Inferior is 31.Nxd4 Rd8 32.Nxb5 *(32.Rf4 Be5∓)* 32...axb5∓]

31...Re7 32.Qf2 Qd6 The only move to avert mate, but it won't come close to saving the game. **33.Re1** 2.23/19

[⌓33.h4 3.88/19]

33...Be5 3.14/17

[33...Rxe1+ 2.23/19 was necessary. 34.Qxe1 Be5]

34.Re2 Ka7 35.Qe1? -0.77/22

[35.Qf1+- 2.30/18]

This just doesn't work. Weighted Error Value: White=0.58/Black=0.76 **35...Bf3** Loss on time!?

[or 35...Bf3 36.Rxe5? -2.07/22 *(36.Nb4∓ -0.56/21 Bxe2 37.Qxe2)* 36...Qxe5-+ had to be tried. Black also finds himself under unpleasant pressure after 37.Qxe5 -2.37/20 *(⌓37.Qf2 -1.61/23 Bd5 38.Qxd4+ Kb7 39.Qb4)* 37...Rxe5-+ 38.Nxd4 Bd5 .]

1-0

36 **C11**

□ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2855**

■ **Fressinet,L.** **2687**

GCT Blitz Paris 2016 (8.2) 11.06.2016

[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.Nf3 b5** 0.59/20

[7...Qb6= -0.01/18]

8.a3 0.18/21

[8.Nf4± 0.59/20]

8...a5 9.Nf4

[9.g3 Ba6 10.Bh3 b4 11.0-0 bxc3 12.bxc3 Be7 13.Re1 0-0 14.Nf4 Nb6 15.Nh5 Rc8 16.Nh4 g6 17.Qg4 Bd3 18.Bh6 cxd4 19.cxd4 Bf5 20.Nxf5 exf5 21.Qd1 Re8 22.Ng7 Nc4 23.Nxe8 Qxe8 1-0 Bortnyk,O (2605)-Chigaev,M (2617) Singapore Olympic Esports Gp-A blitz 2023 (3.2)]

9...Ba6 0.70/18

[9...cxd4 0.32/22 deserves consideration. 10.cxd4 *(10.Bxb5 Na7=)* 10...b4]

10.h4 0.29/20

[10.Bd3± 0.70/18]

10...h6 0.85/21

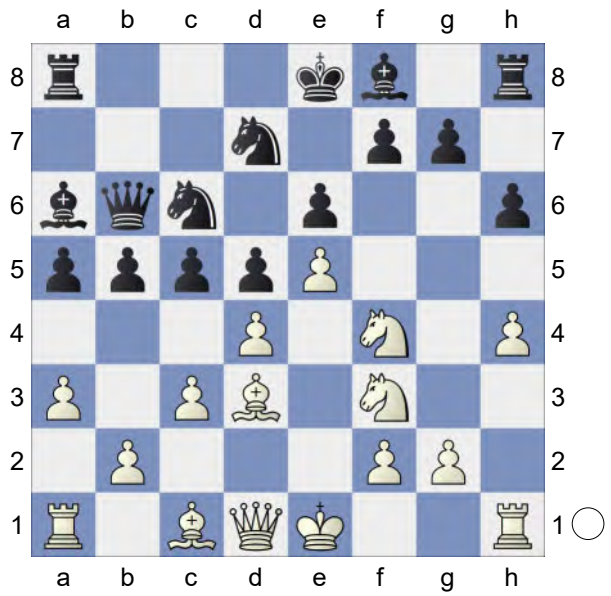
[10...Qb6= 0.29/20]

11.Bd3± Qb6N 1.19/22

[11...Qc8± 0.68/20]

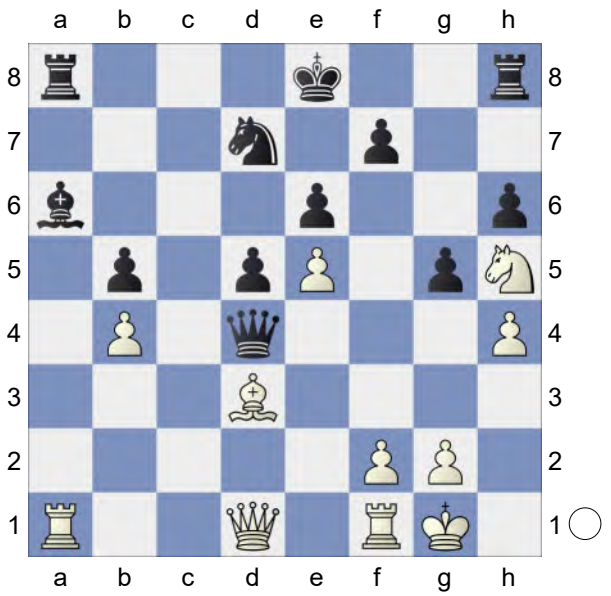
[11...b4 12.axb4 cxb4 13.Bxa6 Rxa6 14.Qe2 Ra8 15.c4 dxc4 16.Qxc4 4 Chapter-Games Chapter 7 Game]

(Diagram)



12.Be3 0.72/21
[⌓12.0-0! 1.19/22]
12...Be7 1.17/19
[Black should play 12...Qb7 0.72/21]
13.0-0 White is more active. **13...cxd4?** 2.89/22
[13...c4± 1.12/19]
14.Nxd4+-
[14.cxd4 b4±]
14...Nxd4
[14...Ncxe5 15.Ndxe6 Qc6 16.Nxg7+ Kd8 17.Bd4+-]
15.Bxd4 Bc5 3.62/21
[15...Qc6 2.10/19 16.Re1 Bxh4]
16.b4 Bxd4 17.cxd4 axb4 3.88/20
[⌓17...Bb7 2.54/18 18.Qg4 axb4 *(18...Qxd4? 19.Bxb5 g6 20.Rad1+-)*]
18.axb4 g5 5.22/19
[18...0-0 3.44/18 was necessary. 19.Ra3 g6 *(19...Qxd4?* is the wrong capture. *20.Bh7+* Discovered Attack *Kxh7 21.Qxd4+-)*]
19.Nh5 White is clearly winning.
19...Qxd4 8.34/20
[⌓19...0-0-0 4.95/18 20.Qf3 Kb8 21.Qxf7 Bc8]

(Diagram)



20.Nf6+! Ke7 21.Nxd7 Qxb4 22.Nb6 Ra7 Black got outplayed after the opening. Weighted Error Value: White=0.10 (very precise) /Black=1.44
23.Qf3
1-0

37 **C11**
□ **Cheng-4-NN** **2848**
■ **Alexnajax_Fan** **2969**
Rapid 28.02.2025
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 10min+2sec C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4
1.d4 e6 2.e4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2N
[5.Qh5 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 *(6...a6 7.Bg5 Qb6 8.0-0-0 g6 9.Qg4 cxd4 10.Nxd4 Nc6 11.Nxe6 fxe6 12.Qxe6+ Ne7 13.Nxd5 Qxe6 14.Nc7+ Kf7 15.Nxe6 Kxe6 16.Bc4+ Kf5 17.f4 Nxe5 18.g4+ Nxg4 19.Rde1 Nf2 20.Re5+ Kg4 21.Be2+* 1-0 (28) Eisert,F (2225)-Heber USSR 37/213 1984 (3)*)* 7.Ng5 g6 8.Qf3 Qe7 9.Nb5 Nxd4 10.Nd6+

Kd8 11.Ngxf7+ Kc7 12.Qc3 Bg7 13.Bg5 Qf8 14.f4 h6 15.Bd8+ Kb8 16.Bb5 b6 17.Rd1 Nf5 18.Qa3 a6 19.Bxd7 Nxd6 1-0 (29) Tucker,A-Meuer Jugoslavija 73/671 1998 20.exd6 Qxf7 21.Bc7+ Kb7 22.Qb3 Bxd7 23.Qxb6+ Kc8 24.Bd8 Bb5 25.Be7 Kd7 26.Qb7+ Ke8 27.Qxa8+ Kd7 28.Qb7+ Ke8 29.Qc8# 1-0 Smith,A-Hanley,C British Rapidplay Championship 1987]

[5.Bd3 Be7 6.Be3 *(6.Nf3 0-0 7.h4 c5 8.Bxh7+ Kxh7 9.Ng5+ Kg6 10.Qd3+ f5 11.exf6+ Kxf6 12.h5 Ne5 13.dxe5+ Kxe5 14.Qg3+ Kd4 15.Rh4+ Rf4 16.Qxf4#* Chapter-Game Chapter 2 Game 13*)* 6...c5 7.Nf3 Nc6 8.dxc5 Nxc5 9.Bb5 Bd7 10.Qe2 Qc7 11.Bxc6 Bxc6 12.0-0 Nd7 13.Bd4 0-0 14.Rfe1 Nb6 15.b3 Rac8 16.Rac1 Bb4 17.Ng5 Bd7 18.Qd3 g6 19.Re3 h6 1-0 (27) Bouzid,K (1670)-Pereira Da Cruz,L (1730) FRA-ch op-B Aix les Bains 2003 (5)]

5...Be7 0.40/22

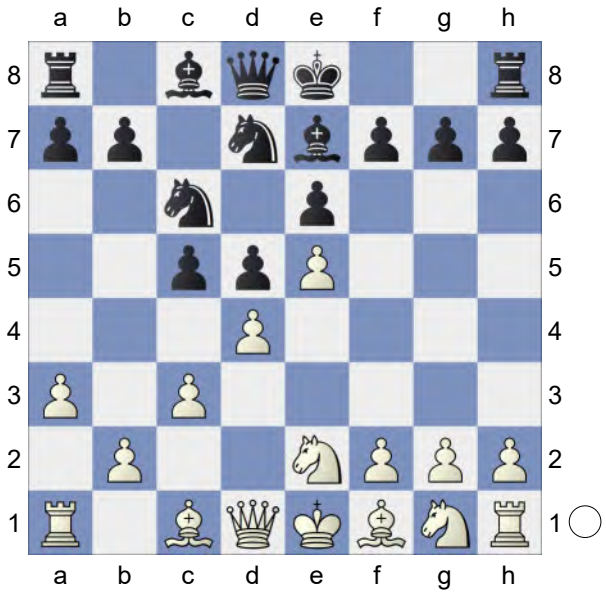
[5...c5= -0.01/22]

6.a3 -0.01/20

[6.c3± 0.40/22]

6...c5= 7.c3 Nc6

(Diagram)



8.h4! The position is equal. **8...Qb6 9.Nf3 cxd4 10.cxd4** Black must now prevent Nf4. **10...f6 11.exf6 Nxf6 12.Nc3 0-0 13.Bd3 Bd6** -0.01/23

[13...Kh8∓ -0.37/20]

14.0-0 Bd7 15.b4 Be8 Black wants to play ...Bh5!. **16.b5 Nd8 17.Qe1** -0.63/23

[17.a4= -0.12/22]

17...Ng4 18.Be2 Qc7 19.Bd2 Qe7 20.Bg5 Qd7 21.Bd2 Bg6 22.a4 Nf7 23.a5 Rac8 Black continues to play with concentration. **24.Rc1** -1.29/21

[24.Na4∓ -0.43/20]

24...h6∓ Black is much more active.

25.Na4 -1.17/21

[25.b6∓ -0.70/20 axb6 26.Ng5]

25...e5! 26.h5 Rxc1

[26...Bxh5 27.Nxe5 Ngxe5 *(27...Bxe5 28.dxe5 Nfxe5 29.f3=)* 28.Rxc8 Rxc8 29.Bxh5∓]

27.Bxc1 Bc2

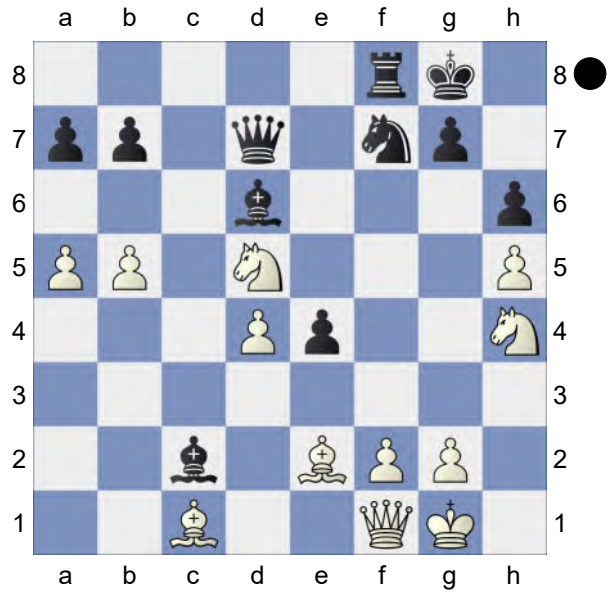
[27...Bxh5 28.dxe5 Bb8 *(28...Bxe5 29.Nxe5 Nfxe5 30.f3=)* 29.Bb2=]

28.Nc3 -1.68/24

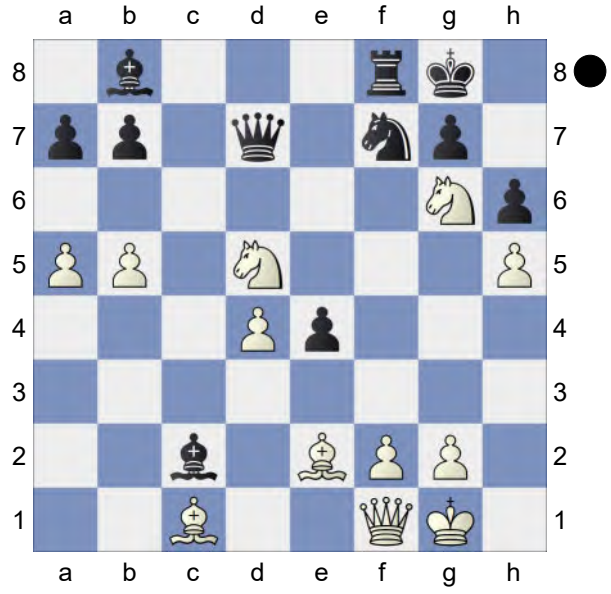
[28.Nc5∓ -1.22/22 Qc8 29.Qd2 Bxc5 30.Qxc2 exd4 31.Bb2]

28...e4-+ 29.Nh4 Nh2! 30.Nxd5 Nxf1

31.Qxf1



Bb8!↑ Keeping White busy. **32.Ng6** -2.20/22
[32.Nf5∓ -1.28/20]



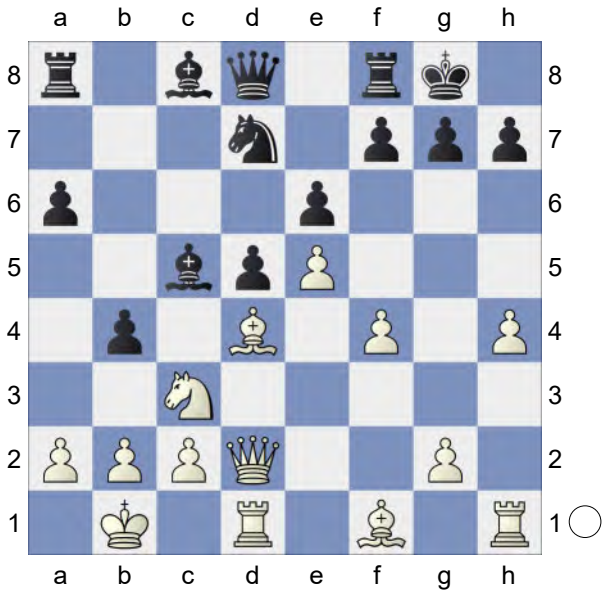
32...Re8! 33.Ndf4 -2.54/21
[33.Ne3 -1.80/23]
33...Qxd4 34.Be3 -2.61/20
[34.Bg4∓ -1.53/20 was worth a try.]
34...Qc3 35.Nd5 Qxa5 36.Nde7+ -2.73/22
[⌓36.Bg4 -1.77/22]
36...Kh7 37.Bg4 Bd6
[37...Bd3 38.Bf5 Bxf1 39.Nf8+ Kh8 40.Nfg6+ Kh7 41.Nf8+ Kh8 42.Nfg6+ Kh7=]
38.Qc1 -3.04/22
[⌓38.Bf5 -1.63/25 Bxe7 Deflection 39.Nxe7+ Kh8 40.Ng6+ Kg8 41.Qc4 Qe1+ *(41...Bd3? 42.Qd4∓)* 42.Kh2]
38...Bxe7
[38...Qxb5 39.Qxc2 Bxe7 40.Be6=]
39.Qxc2 Bd6
[39...Qxb5 40.Be6 Nd6 *(40...Ng5 41.Bxg5 Bxg5 42.Qxe4=)* 41.Qc7 Qb1+ *(41...Qc6 42.Qxe7 Rxe7 43.Nf8+ Kh8 44.Ng6+ Kh7 45.Nf8+ Kh8 46.Ng6+ Kh7±)* 42.Kh2=]
40.Qb1 Wards off Qe1+ **40...Qb4 41.Qxb4 Bxb4 42.Bxa7 Kg8 43.Bf5 Ng5 44.g4 Kf7 45.Bb6 Nf3+ 46.Kg2 Bc3 47.Bd7 Ra8 48.Bf5 Ng5 49.Nf4 Ba1 50.Be3 Rd8 51.Nh3** -3.96/21
[⌓51.Ne2 -2.57/23]
51...Nxh3 52.Kxh3 Bd4
[Not 52...Rd5 53.b6∓]
53.Bxe4? -6.93/27
[53.Bc1 -3.74/23 Bxf2 54.Bxe4]
53...Bxe3 54.fxe3 Endgame KR-KB **54...b6 55.Kg3 Ke6 56.Kf4 Rd2 57.Bb7 Rb2 58.Bc6 Rb4+ 59.Kg3 Ke5 60.Kf3 Kf6 61.Bd7 g6 62.hxg6 Kxg6 63.Be8+ Kg5 64.Bd7 Rc4 65.Be6 Rc5 66.Bd7 Rd5 67.Bc6 Rd6 68.Ke4 Kxg4 69.Ke5 Rd2 70.e4 h5 71.Ke6 Kf4 72.e5 Re2 73.Kd6 Rxe5 74.Kc7 h4** (-> ...h3) **75.Kxb6 h3 76.Ka6 h2** (-> ...Re4!) **77.b6 Kf5** And now ...Re6 would win. **78.b7 Re6 79.b8Q Rxc6+** KQ-KR
[79...h1R? 80.Qf8+ Rf6 81.Qc8+ Re6 82.Ka5 Ra1+ 83.Ba4+-]
80.Ka5 h1Q
[80...h1R? too greedy. 81.Qb5+ Kf4 82.Qxc6+-]
81.Qf8+ Ke4 (-> ...Qa1+) **82.Kb5 Qh6**

83.Qf1 Rc2 84.Qe1+ Qe3 85.Qh1+ Kd3 86.Qd5+ Kc3 87.Qc4+ Kb2 88.Qd5 Qb3+ 89.Qxb3+ Kxb3 KR-K **90.Ka5 Kc4 91.Kb6 Kb4 92.Ka6 Kc5** (-> ...Kc6) **93.Kb7 Kb5 94.Ka7 Kc6 95.Ka8 Kc7 96.Ka7**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.35/ Black=0.11 (very precise)
96...Ra2#
0-1

38 **C11**
□ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2843**
■ **Vallejo Pons,Francisco** **2697**
Grand Slam Final 5th (7) 09.10.2012
[Kiktty Kat]

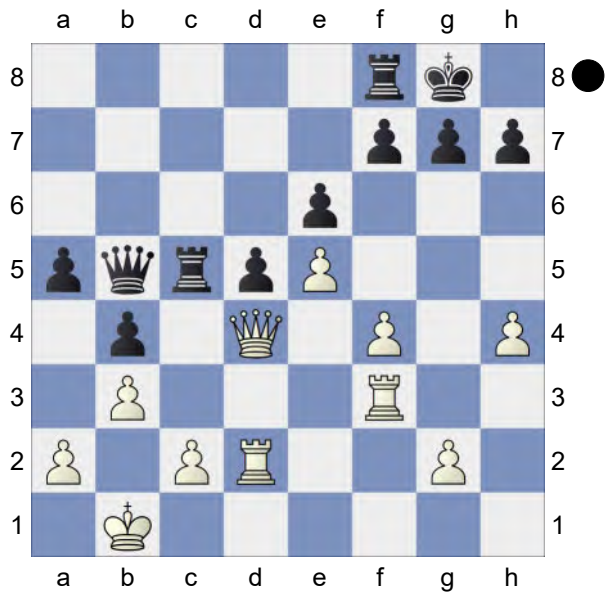
C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Bc5 9.Qd2 0-0 10.0-0-0 a6 11.Kb1 Nxd4 12.Bxd4 b5 13.h4 b4**
[13...Qb6 14.Ne2 a5 15.g4 b4 16.Bg2 Ba6 17.Bxc5 Qxc5 18.Nd4 a4 19.Rh3 Nb6 20.b3 Bc4 21.f5 Bxb3 22.cxb3 axb3 23.axb3 Qa5 24.Qb2 Ra6 25.Bf1 Raa8 26.Rc1 Nd7 27.Nc6 Qb6 28.f6 0-1 Stevenson,W-Lawry,T CBM 2010]

(Diagram)



14.Na4! Bxd4 15.Qxd4 Qa5N
White has an edge.
[15...a5 16.h5 Ba6 17.f5 Qc7 18.h6 Rfc8 19.Bxa6 Qxc2+ 20.Ka1 Rxa6 21.Qg4 g6 22.fxg6 Qxg6 23.Qf4 Rac6 24.b3 Rc2 25.g4 f6 26.exf6 Qxf6+ 27.Qxf6 Nxf6 28.Kb1 Ne4 29.Rhg1 Rh2 30.g5 ½-½ Tosic,M (2445)-Lempert,I (2495) Alushta1 1994 (9)]
16.b3 With the idea Bd3. **16...Bb7! 17.Rh3** -0.15/19
[17.h5!± 0.44/21]
17...Bc6= 18.Nb2 Bb5 19.Bd3 Rac8 20.Bxb5 -0.36/24
[20.h5= 0.01/19]
20...Qxb5∓ 21.Nd3 a5 22.Rd2 -0.61/20
[22.h5= -0.21/20]
22...Nc5 -0.15/19
[22...f6∓ -0.61/20 should be considered.]
23.Nxc5= Rxc5 24.Rf3? -2.19/19
[24.f5= -0.28/20]

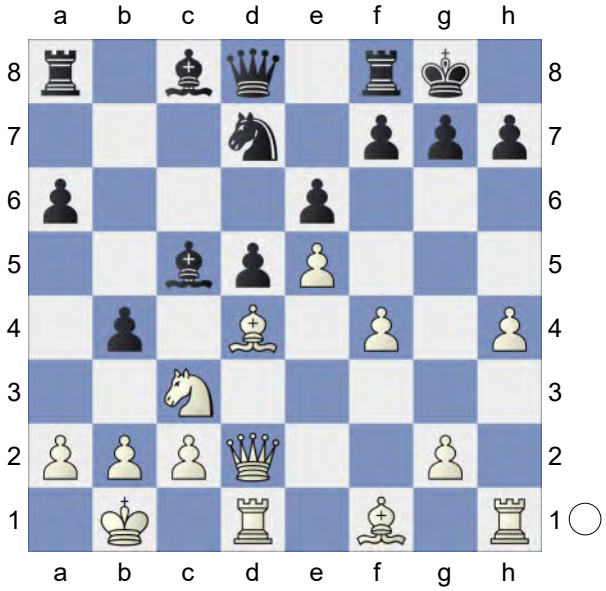
(Diagram)



24...Rfc8? -0.01/18
[24...a4!-+ -2.19/19 And now ...axb3 would win. 25.Rdf2 axb3 26.axb3 Ra8]
25.f5 Qc6 26.Qf2! exf5
[26...a4 seems wilder. 27.fxe6 fxe6 28.Rf7 Qe8]
27.Rxf5 Qe6 28.Qf4 -0.55/21
[28.Rf4= 0.01/21]
28...Qc6 0.01/22
[28...h6∓ -0.55/21]
29.Qf2
[29.Rxf7? Rxc2-+]
29...Qe6 30.Qf4 Qc6 0.01/17
[Black should play 30...h6∓ -0.62/21]
31.Qf2!
[31.Rxf7? loses. Rxc2-+]
31...Qe6 Weighted Error Value: White=0.28 (precise) /Black=0.36 **32.Qf4**
Loss on time!?
1-0

39 **C11**
□ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2843**
■ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2773**
Grand Slam Final 5th (6) 08.10.2012
[Kitty Kat]

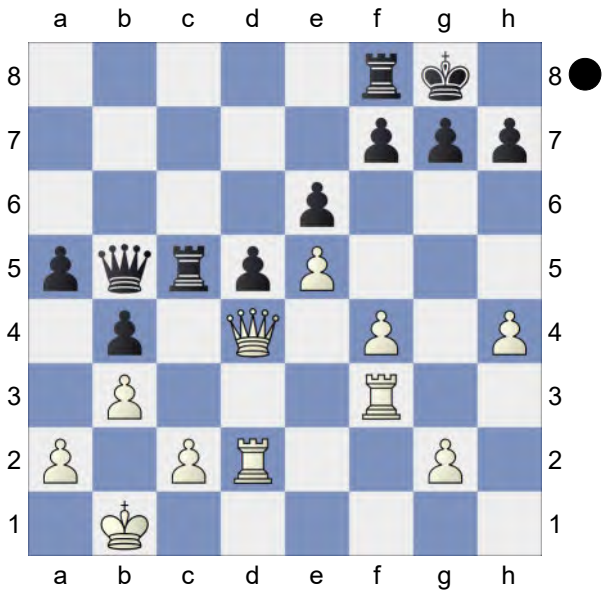
C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Bc5 9.Qd2 0-0 10.0-0-0 a6 11.Kb1 Nxd4 12.Bxd4 b5 13.h4 b4**
[13...Qb6 14.Ne2 a5 15.g4 b4 16.Bg2 Ba6 17.Bxc5 Qxc5 18.Nd4 a4 19.Rh3 Nb6 20.b3 Bc4 21.f5 Bxb3 22.cxb3 axb3 23.axb3 Qa5 24.Qb2 Ra6 25.Bf1 Raa8 26.Rc1 Nd7 27.Nc6 Qb6 28.f6 0-1 Stevenson,W-Lawry,T CBM 2010]



14.Na4! Bxd4 15.Qxd4 Qa5N
White has an edge.
[15...a5 16.h5 Ba6 17.f5 Qc7 18.h6 Rfc8 19.Bxa6 Qxc2+ 20.Ka1 Rxa6 21.Qg4 g6 22.fxg6 Qxg6 23.Qf4 Rac6 24.b3 Rc2 25.g4 f6 26.exf6 Qxf6+ 27.Qxf6 Nxf6 28.Kb1 Ne4 29.Rhg1 Rh2 30.g5 ½-½ Tosic,M

(2445)-Lempert,I (2495) Alushta1 1994 (9)]

16.b3 Bb7! 17.Rh3 -0.08/19
[17.h5± 0.44/20]
17...Bc6= 18.Nb2 Bb5 19.Bd3 -0.38/22
[19.Nd3= 0.07/21]
19...Rac8 0.01/19
[19...Rfc8∓ -0.38/22 was preferable.]
20.Bxb5
[20.h5 feels hotter. Nc5 21.h6 g6 22.Rf3]
20...Qxb5 21.Nd3 a5 22.Rd2 -0.78/20
[22.h5= -0.17/19]
22...Nc5 -0.28/20
[22...f5∓ -0.78/20]
23.Nxc5 Rxc5 24.Rf3? -2.26/22
[White should play 24.f5!∓ -0.35/21]



24...Rfc8? -0.09/22
[24...a4-+ -2.26/22 aiming for ...axb3. 25.Rd1 Qc6]
25.f5 Qc6 26.Qf2! exf5 27.Rxf5 Qe6 28.Qf4 -0.72/22
[28.Rf4= -0.01/21 keeps the balance.]
28...Qc6 0.01/23
[28...h6∓ -0.72/22]
29.Qf2!
[29.Rxf7? Rxc2-+]
29...Qe6 30.Qf4 Qc6 0.01/22
[Black should try 30...h6∓ -0.76/23]
31.Qf2!
[31.Rxf7? perishes. Rxc2-+]
31...Qe6 Weighted Error Value: White=0.26 (precise) /Black=0.42 **32.Qf4** Loss on time!?
1-0

40 **C11**
□ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2842**
■ **Giri,Anish** **2763**
Candidates Tournament (12) 24.04.2021
[Giri,Anish, TA]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4** Fabiano has a very versatile opening repertoire and he has many deadly weapons, but his 1.e4 is perhaps still the most feared. **1...e6 2.d4 d5** I was hoping this would come as a minor surprise, as earlier in the event I played 2. ..Nc6 and in general I played a lot of 2...d6 lately, intending the Najdorf. That said, I was certain to expect Fabiano to have something prepared everywhere, so the surprise value should also not be overestimated. **3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5** The Four Knights Sicilian has been around since forever and is sometimes trendy and random points in time. The critical variation here begins with 6.Nxc6 bxc6 7. e5, but not all players are feeling like getting into that mess. **6.Nf3!?** With this move White usually hopes to shift the focus of the game onto the middlegame. White prevents Bb4, but Black usually gets a fine version of the Scheveningen, with White having played a3 rather early. It is a useful move, but

perhaps not always the main priority. **6...Nc6** Shakhriyar played 6...Qc7 against Fabiano here, in the Bundesliga game last year. **7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Qb6 9.Qd2!?** Interesting move, adding a modern twist to the 6.a3 system. Previously you would expect players to castle short automatically. Curiously, two days later, when in the last round Grischuk also played the Four Knights Sicilian against Fabiano, the move Qd3!? came as early as move 6. **9...Qxb2!?** As 9.Qd3 is one of the top moves of the engine, I had seen it before as well and thought that this could be clever. **10.Rb1** Natural, as long castle allows Ne5, which leads to different kind of complications. **10...Qa3!?** I remembered some vague messy lines here and was hoping that Fabiano would remember it at the very least just as vaguely. **11.Bb5! Nxd4 12.Bxd4** instead, 12.0-0-0 is met by Ng4, but 12.Rf1!? first deserves attention. The move Fabiano chose looked very harmless, but I realized there was some venom there too. **12...a6** I considered a5 followed by Bc8 with idea Ba6 as well, but finally decided to go for the natural response. That obsession to plant the knight on e5, must be the trauma that was induced to me by all the Najdorf lately. **13.Bxd7+ Bxd7?!** White is slightly better. I slightly misjudged things here and the standard Najdorf idea of Be6 Nd7, rerouting the knight to e5, is going to take quite some effort to implement. **14.Rb3** The queen is well placed here, still hitting the d6 pawn and also with some Bh6 in mind, at the right moment. **14...Qe7** I was only really choosing between Nd7-Ne5 and d6-d5 ideas and the second one being far too unattractive (with Rad1 and Be5 and all coming up) I didn't hesitate too much here.

[14...Qa5? 15.Bb6+- *(15.Rxb7 Bb4∓)*]

15.Rxb7! Stronger than the natural Kh1, when Black would be able to establish the knight on e5 directly. It turns out that Qb6-xb2 is not a real threat **15...Qh4+** 0.77/22 a fine waiting move. There was no easy way to get the knight to e5 and I had to watch out for Bh6. Alternatively I was considering 15...Kh8!? and it is still hard for me to say which one was better.

[15...Qd8± 0.36/21]

16.Qf2±

[16.Bf2 0.15/18 16.Qf2 0.80 Qd8! 17.Bb6 Qc8 18.Rc7 Qd8! 19.Qd4 Repels Bc5

A) 19...Rc8 0.81/21 19...Ba3 0.18 20.Rc6 Qe7 21.Rxc8+ Bxc8 22.Kd2 Qb4 1.33/20 *(22...f6± 0.70/19)* 23.Rb1± Qxd4+ 24.Bxd4;

B) 19...Ba3 20.Nb1 Be7 21.c4 Rc8 *(21...Rb8* 0.64/18 21...Rc8 0.15 *)* 22.Rb7! Bb4+ 23.Kf2 Qxb6 24.Rxb6 Bc5 25.Rd1 0-0

B1) 26.Rxa6!? f6 *(26...Bxd4+ 27.Rxd4 Rxc4 28.Rxc4∓)* 27.Qxc5 Rxc5 28.cxd5 exd5 29.e6=;

B2) 26.cxd5 exd5 27.Rxa6 *(27.Kg3!? Bxd4 28.Rxd4±)* 27...Bf5 28.Qxc5 Rxc5 29.Nd2 Rc2]

16...Qxf2+ I disliked 16...Qb6, as after 17.b4 Ne5 white gets 18.Na4 with a tempo, but objectively it is not clear which move was better.

[16...Be7 1.27/23 16...Qxf2+ 0.53 17.g3 *(17.Qxh4* 0.04/17 17.g3 1.08 *Bxh4+ 18.Kd2 Bd8! 19.Rhb1 Bc6*

20.Rb8 Rxb8 21.Rxb8 0-0) 17...Qh3 18.Kd2! h5 1.26/23 *(18...Bd8?* 2.35/20 18...Bc8 0.48 *19.Rhb1 Bc6 20.Bc5! Bxb7 21.Rxb7; 18...Bc8* 0.71/20 *19.Rbb1 0-0)* 19.Rhb1!± Rc8 20.Qe2! *(20.Ra7?* 0.01/19 20.Qe2 2.03 *h4 21.Rbb7 hxg3 22.hxg3 Qh1!)*]

[16...Qd8 17.Bb6 Qc8 18.Rc7 Qd8 19.Rb7? -0.01/19 *(19.f5; 19.f5!+-* 1.64/25 *)* 19...Qc8= 20.Rc7 Qd8 21.0-0 0.69/20 *(21.f5!+-* 1.63/23 *)* 21...Rc8!± 22.Ra7 Qxb6 23.Qxb6 Bc5+ 24.Qxc5 Rxc5 25.Na4! Rxc2 26.Rb1!]

17.Kxf2?! I actually thought this was a very challenging idea as well, but it seems it wasn't as good as we both initially thought it was. **17...Be7**

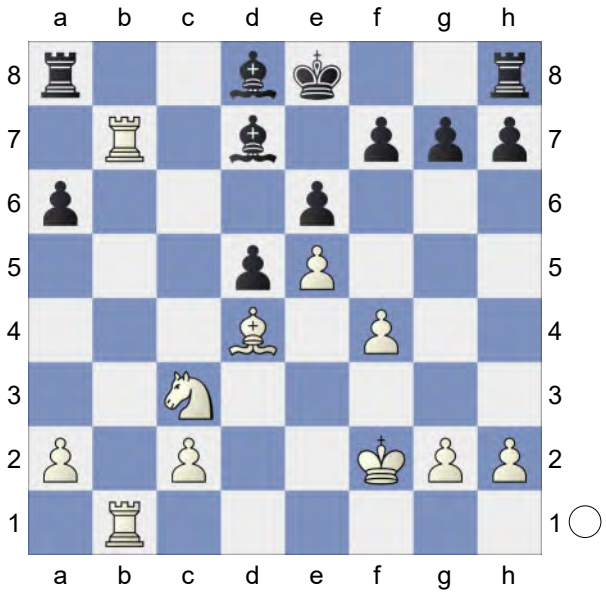
[17...Rc8 1.21/20 17...Be7 0.47 18.Ke3 Bc5 19.Bxc5 Rxc5 20.Rb8+ 0.51/21 *(20.Kd2± 0.95/20)* 20...Bc8± 21.Kd2 0-0 22.Rhb1 Bd7 0.91/21 Against Na4 *(22...f6±* 0.46/18 *)* 23.R1b7 0.51/21 *(23.R1b6±* 0.91/21 *)* 23...Re8 1.28/21 *(* Black should play *23...Bc6!±* 0.51/21 *24.Rxf8+ Kxf8)* 24.Rxe8+ 0.73/5 *(24.Rb6* 1.28/21 *)* 24...Bxe8± 25.Ra7 Ra5 26.Kd3 0.17/22 *(26.g4±* 0.84/22 *)*]

18.Nd1N -0.16/22 Clearing the way for the c3 knight.

[18.Rhb1

A) 18...Bd8

(Diagram)

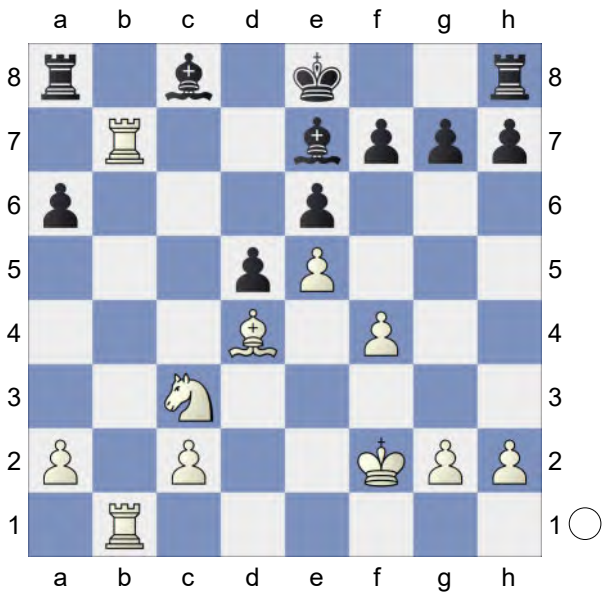


19.Rb8! *(19.Ke3 Bc6 20.R7b3 0-0 21.Bc5 Re8 22.Ne2 Ba4 23.R3b2 Rc8 24.Bb6 Be7 25.c3 Bb5 26.Bd4 Rc4 27.Nc1 Rec8 28.Nd3 f6 29.Kd2 Kf7 30.g3 Ra4 31.Nb4 Rc7 32.Nc2 Ba3 33.Nxa3 Rxa3* 0-1 Duda,J (2731)-Grischuk,A (2745) Speed Chess Q2 KO blitz 2022 (1.7)*)* 19...Rxb8 20.Rxb8 0-0 21.Rb7 Bc6 22.Ra7 Ba5 23.Rxa6 Bxc3 24.Bxc3 Rc8 25.Ke3 Bb7 *(25...Bb5 26.Ra5 Bf1 27.Kf2 h5 28.Bd4 Bc4 29.a4 Kh7 30.Ra7 Kg6 31.a5 Rb8 32.Bb6 Rc8 33.Bd4 Rc6 34.Re7 Rc8 35.g3 Ba6 36.c3 Rb8 37.Bb6 Rb7 38.Re8 Kf5 39.Ke3 Kg4 40.Kd4* 1-0 Madaminov,M (2521)-Murzin,V (2657) Tashkent Al Beruniy-A 2nd 2025 (6) *)* 26.Ra3 h5 27.Kd3 Rc4 28.Bd4 Bc6 29.Ra5 Bd7 30.h3 Kh7 31.g4 Ba4 32.c3 hxg4 33.hxg4 Bd1 34.Ra7 ½-½ Baracu,N (2364)-Volkov,D (2092) Sigeman & Co 04th_114347 1996 (4);

B) 18...Bd8± 0.35/20;

C) 18...Bc8 1.15/20

(Diagram)



19.R7b3!± 0-0 20.Na4 a5 *(20...Bd8)* 21.Nb6 Ra6? 7.20/21 *(21...Rb8 22.Nxd5 Bh4+ 23.g3; 21...Rb8±* 0.97/21 *)* 22.Rc3]

[18.Rhb1± 0.64/25]

18...Bd8!= Much stronger than taking the pawn and allowing the Nxb5-Nd4 rerouting. **19.Ne3 Bc6** The rook is doing a great job putting pressure on the open c-file. White has cleared the path for the knight, but in the process has created a couple more isolated pawns, which may backfire...

[19...Bb5]

20.Rb2 0-0! I was very happy with this move, but actually the simple Bf8 was also excellent. Black is out of any danger and White has a tough choice here. Is he going to play ambitiously at the risk of overpressing? And what for? **21.Bc5** Playing for a win in a very passive way. Fabiano was in a very tough spot, given the tournament standing and I am the last person to criticize him here, falling for the same mistake myself in the very next round. In some positions playing for a win is basically playing for a loss. But probably you still gotta try. I don't know. **21...Re8 22.c4 f6!?** my first instinct was to take on d5 and play Rc5 which was fine, but this move seemed very interesting as well, asking White more questions. **23.cxd5?!** it was only after this move when I really felt things started to turn around. Here I expected 23.Bg4!? or 23. Bb5!? when I didn't think White had crossed too many lines just yet. **23...exd5** White's queen doesn't have a comfortable square and also the ideas of trading the dark squared bishops start appearing. **24.Bd6** White is placing too many pieces on the c1-h6 diagonal, setting himself up for a trade of dark squared bishops which is going to be a positional disaster.

[24.Bd4 fxe5 25.fxe5 Bc7 26.Rc1 Bxe5 27.Bxe5 Rxe5 28.Rxc6 Rf8+! 29.Ke2 d4 30.Rb3! Rfe8 31.Rxa6]

24...fxe5 25.fxe5 d4! Now the trade of bishops is inevitable and the situation clarifies. White is facing a very depressing task ahead. He has to stand and wait passively, hoping his position won't collapse. **26.Nf5** Inhibits Bh4+. **26...d3 27.Ke3** Dodges Be4 **27...Bb5** The doubled g-pawns are even nice. The pawn on g7 is guarding the king and the f6 square, while the g5 pawn is protecting the f4 square and can be pushed forward without compromising the king's safety. **28.Ke4 Rc8** Already for a while, on every move I was choosing whether to take on d5 or not. It was hard to choose, because both seemed good, at the same time, it wasn't too concerning, as I felt I just couldn't go wrong at this point, as Black would be better either way. **29.Nd4!** Alternatively 29.Ne3 was a better option, not allowing Black to clarify the situation further and

keeping more pieces and a little more intrigue on the board. **29...Bc4** Finally I decided that it was time to start cashing out. **30.Rd1 a5!** Usually the knight is great on the e5 square, but here I am going after the c4 pawn. Pretty knight is good, but an extra pawn, that's a whole another level.

[30...g6]

31.a3 White gets to keep the pawn for now, but I had seen this coming. **31...g6!** 0.21/23 guarding all the pawns on the 7th rank.

[31...Bf6 -0.27/22]

32.Rb7 Bf6!? A strong pair of Bishops. A sophisticated move. I had calculated a long line, which seemed to be winning the pawn for me. **33.Nf3 Bg7!?** Black is weak on the dark squares This wasn't as winning as I thought it was, but still a fine practical choice, as there was no obvious way to get anything more than what I got. **34.Ra7** -0.50/23

[34.h4]

[34.g4= 0.01/22]

34...Rcd8 -0.01/22

[34...Bb3! 35.Rd2 Bc2 36.Rxa5 Bh6 37.Kd4! Dodges Rc4+]

[34...Bb3!∓ -0.50/23 35.Rd2 *(35.Rxd3 Bc2∓* Pin *)* 35...Bc2]

35.Kd4 -0.67/25

[35.Kf4]

[Better is 35.Kf4= -0.01/22]

35...Bb3∓ I had calculated Qc7/b6 here and then Rxa3 Qxd6 Rxf3! trick worked. Strangely Fabiano comes up with h4 idea, which is something I didn't see at all, but in the wrong position.

[35...Rxd6+ -0.19/19 35...Bb3 -0.76 36.Kxc4 Rc8+ 37.Kb3 Rb6+ -0.14/25 *(37...Rd5∓* -0.54/23 might be stronger. *)* 38.Ka4= Rc4+ 39.Kxa5 Rb3]

[35...Rxd6+ 36.Kxc4 Rc8+ 37.Kb3 Rb6+ 38.Ka4∓]

36.Rxg7+? White can't defend such an ugly position passively. Despite being a pawn down, he also has a bad bishop vs. a good knight, a weaker king and what not. **36...Kxg7 37.Rxd3 a4** -0.20/20 Centralization. White is lost.

[37...Be6 -0.42/23 37...Bg8 -1.12]

[37...Be6∓ -0.83/23 And now ...Rc8 would win. 38.Ng5 Bf5]

38.Nd2!= Be6 0.01/20

[38...Bc2∓ -0.53/21 39.Re3 Kg8]

39.Ne4 Bf5 40.Re3 Bxe4 A funny 40th move moment. I thought this was a clincher, but actually after Fabiano finds the only defense, which I missed, I have to go back. Fortunately nothing got ruined here, as my advantage is far too overwhelming and a tempo or two doesn't really matter. **41.Rxe4** Endgame KRR-KRB **41...Rf8⇄** Black is not keeping still **42.Ke3** Dodges Rf2 Giving me a second chance, but now with a little more time and a fresh look, finding a forced win wasn't hard. **42...Rfe8** The slow g6 or Nh5 would win easily as well. **43.Kf4 Ra8** The threat of Rh8+ is unstoppable.

[43...Rc8 looks sharper. 44.e6 Kf6 45.e7 g5+]

44.Rb4 Ra7 45.Ke4 Kf7 If Rg3 there is Qc1+ followed by Qh1 mate. A pleasant victory and an important one as well. Or well, it could have been. **46.Rb6!** This would offer White chances to hang on. **46...Rc8** now Qxd6 Rxf3! followed by invasion with Qe2 wins indeed, but White has a strong intermezzo. **47.Bb4!** defending from Rxf3. Black is still much better, of course, but there is no win. **47...Rac7 48.Kd5 Rc2** this is quite nasty, but White can resist- **49.e6+! Kf6**

and White has a tough task ahead, but the game goes on, as the material is reasonably limited, with only three pawns each. **50.Rb7!** was better, running away from the trade- **50...g5**
[50...Rxg2 51.Rf7+ Kg5 52.e7+-]
51.Rxh7 Rxg2 52.Kd6 hiding the bishop away from the trade. White is still very passive, but at least he keeps the good bishop. **52...Kg6! 53.Rh3** A move I had to see before going for Ng6. Giving up a strong knight, but taking an important bishop. **53...g4 54.Re3** Black is on a slightly better side of things, with White having perhaps a tad more pawn weaknesses, but the position is too simplified to have serious hopes here for a victory. **54...Rxh2!** in hindsight it was best for white to just force a draw here. **55.Kd7** Black also can't play for more here. **55...Rhh8 56.e7** Prevents Rhd8+. White has compensation. **56...Rce8 57.Bd6 Ra8** 1.71/28
[57...Kf5!= 0.22/22]
58.Bc7 0.35/20
[58.e8Q+ Rhxe8 59.Rxe8 Rxe8 60.Kxe8 Kf5+-]
[58.e8N?! Ra7+ 59.Kc6 Rf7=]
[58.e8R+- 1.71/28 Ra7+ 59.Kc6 Ra6+ 60.Kd7 Rh7+ 61.Ke6]
58...Rag8 1.76/25
[58...Rh7!± 0.35/20]
59.Re4+-
[59.e8Q+ Rxe8 60.Rxe8 Rxe8 61.Kxe8]
[59.e8R Rxe8 60.Rxe8 Rh3+-]
[59.e8N Rh7+ 60.Kc6 Rh3=]
[59.e8B+?! Kg5=]
59...Kf5 2.72/24 with a move repetition.
[59...Kh5± 1.15/24]
60.Rf4+! White could play it slowly. His only issue is the knight on c3, which is dominated by the c6 pawn (a common theme in many early middlegame positions) . Fabiano decided to solve that issue by removing the c6 pawn altogether, but there was an alternative way.
[60.e8R Rxe8 61.Rxe8 Rxe8 62.Kxe8 Ke6=]
[60.Rxa4 g3=]
60...Kg5 61.Rxa4! Very strong. The bishop attacks nothing, but is merely freeing the e2 square for the knight. On d4, the knight will stand a lot better. Black is lacking a clear plan. The problem is, it is hard to further improve the pieces and it's unclear how to really make use of the pretty knight on e5. **61...Kh4?** 4.69/23 is another logical idea, sending the knight to c5.
[61...Rh7 intending (if allowed) Bf8 Re6, pressuring the e4 pawn and at the same time neutralizing white's potential pressure along the f-file, which would be a good demonstration on why it can be nice to get rid of the light squared bishops. 62.Re4 0.22/20 *(62.Bg3± 1.53/19)* 62...Ra8!= 63.a4 Kf6 solves the opening problems. 64.Re6+ Kf5 65.a5 Threatens to win with Re3. g3!]
[61...Rh7 2.32/22 62.Bd6 Rhg7]
62.Re4 Ra8
[62...Rh7! It is interesting as to why this move is so strong, because at first, one might argue that Black's light squared bishop is the better one of the two. That in itself being true, I think there may be other factors at play here. In some way Black has less space and the bishop on e6 is blocking the rook's view on the e-file potentially. Also White has to deal with some concrete issues such as

Qb6+ or d5 at the right moment. But perhaps above all, it is because there is no other way to reroute the knight to e5 comfortably. 63.a4 There are alternatives, but this is the most natural. Ra8 64.a5]

63.a4 I didn't see how White can do anything here, other than massive trades and a draw. The queen is fine on b2.

[63.e8R Rhxe8 64.Rxe8 Rxa3±]

63...Kg5 made some sense, but not with the idea of capturing the b2 pawn. **64.a5!**

[Less strong is 64.e8R Rhxe8 65.Rxe8 Rxa4±]

64...Rh7? there is something to say for 16...Qd8!, when the bishop on e3 is worse placed than on f4, but I am not this deep. **65.Kc6!** 2.32/19 is bad news.

[⌓65.Kd6 4.61/24]

65...Rhh8 66.Kd7? -0.01/17 and White wins the queen.

[66.Re5++- 2.58/23 Kf6 67.Kd7]

66...Rh7!= is the engine's top choice, with idea to chase the queen away from its ideal position on g3 and then eventually hit in the center with d5. I have to say it really didn't occur to me, especially as one would think that pushing kingside pawns is only further softening the king's shelter is counterintuitive. **67.Kc6?** -0.01/15

[67.Kd6+- 4.40/23]

67...Rhh8! 68.Re3 Rhe8? 7.96/20

[68...Kf5 1.88/21 69.Re5+ Kf6]

69.Kd7+- Kf6 70.Re6+ Kf7 is how the play may have developed. **71.Re4** felt like it should equalize too, but after **71...Kf6 72.Bd8**

[Weaker is 72.Rxg4 Rxe7+ 73.Kd6 Rxc7 74.Kxc7 Rxa5=]

72...Kf5 73.Kxe8 White wants to mate with Kf8. **73...Kxe4** Weighted Error Value: White=0.12 (very precise) / Black=0.19 (very precise) **74.Kf8** Sensor Board Error (Ke4/e5)? even the simple capture on g4, followed by Qg3 seemed not hundred percent fine to me and it also felt a little sad to play such a one sided position.

0-1

41 **C11**

□ **EleKtRoMaGnIt** **2841**

■ **Eurythmics** **2790**

Blitz 10.09.2022

[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2N**

[5.Qh5 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 *(6...a6 7.Bg5 Qb6 8.0-0-0 g6 9.Qg4 cxd4 10.Nxd4 Nc6 11.Nxe6 fxe6 12.Qxe6+ Ne7 13.Nxd5 Qxe6 14.Nc7+ Kf7 15.Nxe6 Kxe6 16.Bc4+ Kf5 17.f4 Nxe5 18.g4+ Nxg4 19.Rde1 Nf2 20.Re5+ Kg4 21.Be2+* 1-0 Eisert,F (2225)-Heber USSR 37/213 1984 (3)*)* 7.Ng5 g6 8.Qf3 Qe7 9.Nb5 Nxd4 10.Nd6+ Kd8 11.Ngxf7+ Kc7 12.Qc3 Bg7 13.Bg5 Qf8 14.f4 h6 15.Bd8+ Kb8 16.Bb5 b6 17.Rd1 Nf5 18.Qa3 a6 19.Bxd7 Nxd6 1-0 Tucker,A-Meuer Jugoslavija 73/671 1998 20.exd6 Qxf7 21.Bc7+ Kb7 22.Qb3 Bxd7 23.Qxb6+ Kc8 24.Bd8 Bb5 25.Be7 Kd7 26.Qb7+ Ke8 27.Qxa8+ Kd7 28.Qb7+ Ke8 29.Qc8# 1-0 Smith,A-Hanley,C British Rapidplay Championship 1987]

[5.Bd3 Be7 6.Be3 *(6.Nf3 0-0 7.h4 c5 8.Bxh7+ Kxh7 9.Ng5+ Kg6 10.Qd3+ f5 11.exf6+ Kxf6 12.h5 Ne5 13.dxe5+ Kxe5 14.Qg3+ Kd4*

15.Rh4+ Rf4 16.Qxf4# 13 Chapter-Game Chapter 2 Game*)* 6...c5 7.Nf3 Nc6 8.dxc5 Nxc5 9.Bb5 Bd7 10.Qe2 Qc7 11.Bxc6 Bxc6 12.0-0 Nd7 13.Bd4 0-0 14.Rfe1 Nb6 15.b3 Rac8 16.Rac1 Bb4 17.Ng5 Bd7 18.Qd3 g6 19.Re3 h6 1-0 Bouzid,K (1670)-Pereira Da Cruz, L (1730) FRA-ch op-B Aix les Bains 2003 (5)]

5...Be7 6.Nf3 0-0 1.22/23

[6...c5= -0.01/17]

7.c3± c5 8.Nf4 White is better. **8...Nc6** 1.30/17

[Black should play 8...cxd4 0.93/19 9.cxd4 Nc6]

9.a3 0.06/16

[9.Bd3± 1.30/17]

9...a5? 1.79/17

[9...Qa5!= 0.06/16 and Black stays safe.]

10.h4+- cxd4 2.12/17

[10...g6± 1.44/16 is a better defense. 11.Bd3 b5]

11.cxd4 Re8 12.Bd3 Nf8 13.g4 1.02/16

[13.Be3+- 2.09/16 has better winning chances.]

13...Bd7 1.68/17

[13...f6± 1.02/16]

14.g5 Qb6 15.Kf1 1.27/18

[White should play 15.h5+- 1.79/19]

15...a4± 16.h5 Na5 17.g6 Bb5 18.gxf7+ Kxf7 19.Kg2 Bxd3 20.Qxd3 0.74/20

[⌓20.Nxd3 1.58/19 And now Be3! would win. Rec8 *(20...Nb3 21.Rb1∓)* 21.h6 *(21.Qxa4? Nb3-+)*]

20...Qb3 21.Qe2 Qc4 22.Qe1? -0.67/21

[22.Qxc4!± 1.20/20 Nxc4 23.h6]

22...Nb3∓ Dancing on a razor blade.

23.Rb1 -1.34/19

[23.Nd2∓ -0.48/19 Qxd4 24.Nxb3 axb3 25.Rh3]

23...Nxd4∓ Active counter play! **24.h6?** -6.79/20

[24.Nxd4∓ -1.06/17 Qxd4 25.Qe3 Qxe3 26.Bxe3]

24...Nxf3-+ 25.Kxf3 g5 26.Nh5 Ng6 27.Kg3 Kg8 28.Bd2 -6.36/21

[⌓28.Nf6+ -4.09/19 Bxf6 29.exf6]

28...Rf8 29.Rc1? -5.80/18

[29.Nf6+ -3.37/18 Rxf6 Deflection *(29...Bxf6? 30.exf6 Qc7+ 31.Kg2-+)* 30.exf6 Bd6+ 31.Kg2]

29...Qb3+ 30.Qe3 Qxb2 aiming for ... d4!. **31.Rc7?** -7.35/18

[31.Rb1 -3.56/17 Qc2 *(31...Qxa3 32.Qxa3 Bxa3 33.Nf6+ Kh8 34.Rxb7∓; 31...Qxe5+? 32.Qxe5 Nxe5 33.Rxb7-+)* 32.Rhc1]

31...d4

[31...Qxe5+ 32.Qxe5 Nxe5 33.Rxe7 Rf3+ 34.Kg2+-]

32.Qd3 Rac8? -2.45/23

[32...Qxa3 33.Qxa3 Bxa3 34.Bxg5 Nxe5 35.Nf6+ *(35.Rxb7? Rf3+ 36.Kg2 Raf8-+)* 35...Rxf6 36.Bxf6+-]

[32...Nxe5 -9.83/19 33.Qe2 Qb3+ *(33...Bxa3? 34.Qxe5 Qb3+ 35.Be3+-; 33...Qxa3+? 34.Kg2-+)* 34.f3 Rxf3+ *(34...Qxf3+? 35.Qxf3 Rxf3+ 36.Kg2-+; 34...Nxf3? 35.Kg2-+)* 35.Kg2 Qd5 *(35...Bxa3? 36.Qxe5+-)*]

33.Rhc1? -15.82/22

[33.Rb1 -2.45/23 Qa2 *(33...Qxa3? 34.Qxa3 Bxa3 35.Rg7+ Kh8 36.Rbxb7+-; 33...Qxb1 34.Qxb1 Rxc7 35.Ng7∓)* 34.Rxc8 Rxc8 35.Nf6+ Bxf6 36.exf6]

33...Rxc7

[33...Qxa3? 34.Qxa3 Rxc7 35.Qxa4+-]

[33...Nxe5? 34.Rxe7+- *(34.Nf6+*

Rxf6 35.Rxe7 Rc3∓ Pin)]

34.Rxc7 Nxe5

[34...Qxa3 35.Qxa3 Bxa3 36.Rg7+ *(36.Bxg5 Rf7+-)* 36...Kh8 37.Nf6 *(37.Bxg5 Rg8±)* 37...Rxf6 38.exf6 Bd6+ 39.Kf3+-]

35.Qe2 Qb3+ 36.Kh2 Nf3+

[36...Bxa3 37.Qxe5= *(37.Rg7+ Kh8=)*]

37.Kg2 Bd6

[37...Bxa3 38.Rg7+ Kh8 39.Bxg5=]

38.Rg7+ Kh8 39.Bxg5 Nxg5

[39...Qxa3 40.Qxe6= *(40.Bf6 Rxf6* Remove Defender *41.Nxf6 Nh4+ 42.Kg1 Qc1+ 43.Qf1 Nf3+ 44.Kg2 Nh4+ 45.Kg1 Nf3+ 46.Kg2 Nh4+ 47.Kg1=)*]

[39...Bxa3? 40.Bf6+-]

40.Rxg5 d3

[40...Qxa3 41.Qg4=]

41.Qe4 Qb2

[41...Qxa3? 42.Rg7+- *(42.Qxb7 Rxf2+* Decoy *43.Kxf2 Qa2+ 44.Kf1 Qe2+ 45.Kg1 Qe3+ 46.Kh1 Qxg5-+)*]

42.Kh3 Qxf2 (→ ...Rf3+)

[42...Qxa3? 43.Rg7 Rf5 *(43...Rxf2 44.Qxh7#; 43...d2+? 44.Ng3+-)* 44.Nf6 d2+ *(44...Rxf6 45.Qxh7#)* 45.Kg2+-]

43.Rg7 Qh2+ -20.91/5

[43...Bxa3 44.Qxh7#]

[⌓43...Rf3+ -#12/26 44.Qxf3 Qxf3+ 45.Kh4 d2 *(45...Bxa3? 46.Rd7-+)* 46.Rd7 d1Q *(46...d1R 47.Rd8+ Bf8* Discovered Attack *48.Rxf8+ Qxf8 49.Kg4 Rg1+ 50.Ng3 Qf5+ 51.Kh4 Qg6 52.Nh5 Rh1#)* 47.Rd8+ Bf8 Discovered Attack 48.Rxf8+ Remove Defender Qxf8 49.Nf6 Qxf6+ 50.Kh3 Qh1+ 51.Kg4 Qhh4#]

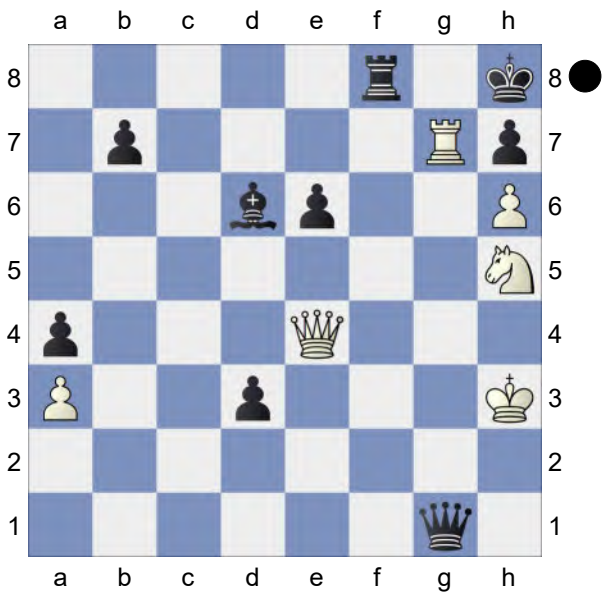
44.Kg4 Qg1+? 0.01/27

[44...Bxa3 45.Qxh7#]

[44...Qe2+ -#14/27 45.Qxe2 dxe2 46.Nf6 Rxf6 *(46...e1R 47.Rxh7#)* 47.Rd7 e1Q *(47...e1R? 48.Rxd6 Rg1+ 49.Kh5-+)* 48.Rd8+ Bf8 49.Kh5 Qe4 *(49...Rxh6+ 50.Kg4 Rg6+ 51.Kf4 Qg3+ 52.Ke4 Rg4#)* 50.Rxf8+ Rxf8 51.Kg5 Rf5#]

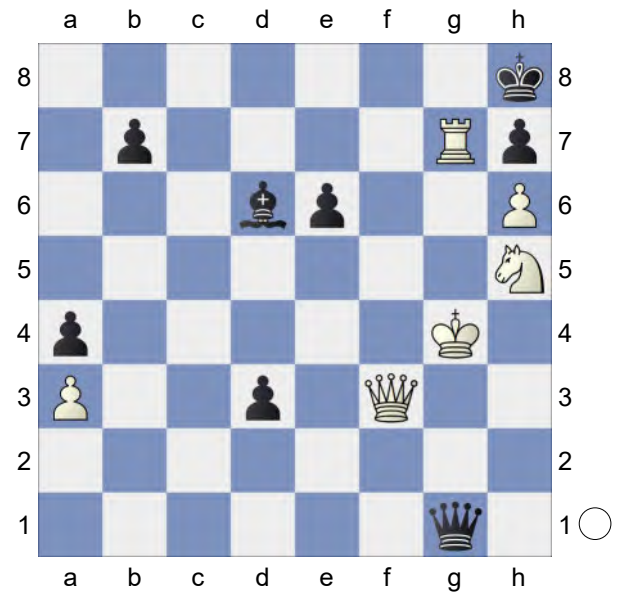
45.Kh3? -20.94/30

[45.Kh4= 0.01/27 Qf2+ 46.Kg4 Qe2+ Skewer *(46...Bxa3 47.Qxh7#)* 47.Qxe2 dxe2 48.Rg5 e1Q *(48...e1R? 49.Ra5-+)* 49.Rg7 Rf5 *(49...Bxa3 50.Rd7 Bc1 51.Rd3 Qe2+ 52.Kh3 Qf1+ 53.Kg4 Qxd3 54.Kh4 Rg8 55.Ng7 Qf3 56.Nxe6 Qh1#)* 50.Rg8+ Kxg8 51.Nf4 Rxf4+ *(51...Bxf4? 52.Kf3 Be5+ 53.Kg4 Qg3#)* 52.Kh3 Qf1+ 53.Kh2 Rh4#]



45...Rf3+?? #19/36 **46.Qxf3 Qh2+ 47.Kg4 Qg1+**

(Diagram)



48.Ng3? 0.01/26
[48.Kh4! #17/30 mates Qh2+ 49.Kg5 Qg1+ 50.Kf6 Qc1 51.Kxe6 *(51.Qxb7 Qxh6+ 52.Kf7 Qxh5+ 53.Kxe6 Qe5+ 54.Kd7 Qxg7+ 55.Kc8 Qxb7+ 56.Kxb7 d2 57.Kc8 d1Q 58.Kb7 Qd5+ 59.Kb6 Bg3 60.Ka6 Qc6+ 61.Ka7 Qb5 62.Ka8 Qb8#; 51.Kf7 Qc7+ 52.Kxe6 Qc8+ 53.Kxd6 Qd8+ 54.Rd7 Qb8+ 55.Ke7 Qe5+ 56.Kf7 Qg5 57.Qf6+ Qxf6+ 58.Kxf6 Kg8 59.Rd8#)* 51...Bf4 52.Rd7 *(52.Qxf4 Qc8+ 53.Kf6 Qd8+ 54.Kf5 Qf8+ 55.Kg5 Qe8)* 52...Qc8 53.Nf6 *(53.Qxf4 Qc6+ 54.Ke7 Qc5+ 55.Qd6 Qe3+ 56.Kd8 Qg5+ 57.Qf6+ Qxf6+* Remove Defender *58.Nxf6 b6 59.Rxh7#)*]
Weighted Error Value: White=1.64/ Black=1.09 **48...d2** Loss on time!?
[Weaker is 48...Bxa3 49.Rd7 *(49.Qxd3 Qd1+ 50.Qxd1 Bf8 51.Qd8 e5 52.Qxf8#)*]
0-1

42 **C11**
□ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2837**
■ **Morozevich,A.** **2770**
World Rapid Final (2) 06.07.2012
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Be7 8.Qd2 b6** 0.72/16
[8...a6= 0.11/17 keeps the balance.]
9.Bd3 0.26/17
[9.Bb5± 0.72/16 Na5 10.h4]
9...0-0
[9...Bb7 10.0-0 0-0 11.Nd1 cxd4 12.Nxd4 Nxd4 13.Bxd4 f5 14.exf6 Bxf6 15.c3 Qc7 16.Qe3 Rae8 17.Qh3 g6 18.Ne3 Bxd4 19.cxd4 Rxf4 20.Bxg6 hxg6 21.Qh6 Rf6 22.Ng4 Rxf1+ 23.Rxf1 Qc2 24.Qh4 ½-½ Grischuk,A (2785)-Wang,H (2747) Paris FIDE GP 2013 (1)]
10.0-0 0.16/18
[10.h4± 0.53/19 deserves consideration.]
10...f6= The position is equal. **11.exf6 Nxf6 12.Kh1N**
[12.Bb5 Bd7 13.Bxc6 Bxc6 14.Ne5 Rc8 15.Kh1 Be8 16.a4 Nd7 17.a5 Nxe5 18.fxe5 Bg6 19.axb6 axb6 20.Rfe1 Ra8 21.Nb5 Qd7 22.Nc3 h6 23.h3 Kh7 24.Rxa8 Rxa8 25.Rf1 c4 26.Ne2 b5 ½-½ Andrade,I (2161)-Injac,T (2453) Titled Tuesday intern op 14th Jan Early blitz 2025 (1)]
12...c4 13.Be2 Bb4 14.Ne5 Nxe5 15.dxe5 Ne4 16.Qe1 d4 0.80/21
[16...Bd7= -0.08/17]
17.Rd1± Nxc3
[17...dxc3 18.Rxd8 *(18.Bxc4? Qc7∓)* 18...Rxd8 19.bxc3 *(19.Bxc4 Nd2+-)* 19...Bxc3 20.Qh4+-]
18.bxc3 Bxc3 19.Qf2 b5 1.11/21

[19...dxe3± 0.54/20 20.Qxe3 Bd7]

20.Bxd4 Bxd4 21.Rxd4 Qa5 5.73/17

[21...Qe8± 0.89/19 is more resistant.]

22.Bf3+- Rb8 23.Rfd1 Bb7 24.Rd7 Bxf3 25.Qxf3 0.92/23

[25.Qg3!+- 5.18/23 Rf7 *(25...Bxd1 26.Qxg7#)* 26.gxf3]

25...Rbd8? 4.00/23

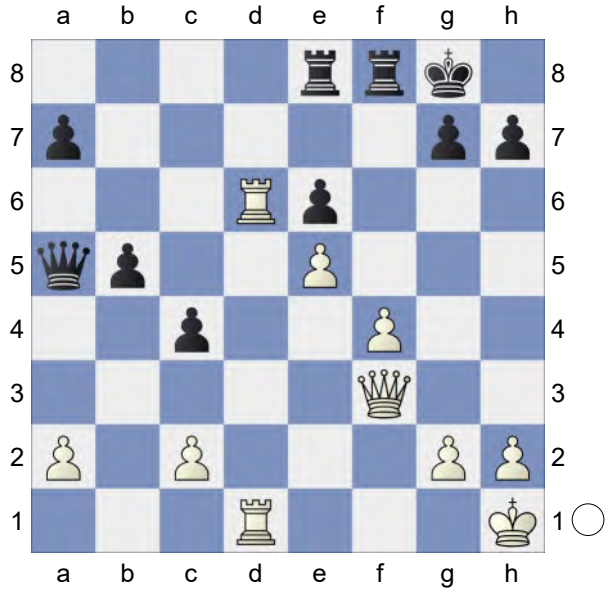
[25...Qxa2 26.Qg4 Rf7 27.Rxf7 *(27.Qxe6 Rbf8 28.Rxf7 g6 29.Rxf8+* Back Rank *Kxf8 30.Qf6+ Kg8 31.Rd8#)* 27...g6 28.Qh4 *(28.Qxe6 c3 29.Qxa2 Kh8 30.Rdd7 Kg8 31.Rxh7+ Kf8 32.Rh8#)* 28...Kxf7 29.Rd7+ *(29.Qxh7+ Kf8 30.Qh8+* Skewer *Ke7 31.Qxb8 Qa5 32.Qb7+ Kf8 33.Qc8+ Qd8 34.Rxd8+ Kg7 35.Rd7+ Kh6 36.Qh8#)* 29...Kg8 30.Qxh7+ Kf8 31.Qh8#]

[25...Kh8± 0.92/23]

26.R7d6? 0.71/21

[26.Qc6+- 4.00/23 has better winning chances. Rxd7 27.Qxd7 Qxa2 28.Qxe6+ Kh8 29.Qf5 Back Rank]

26...Rde8±

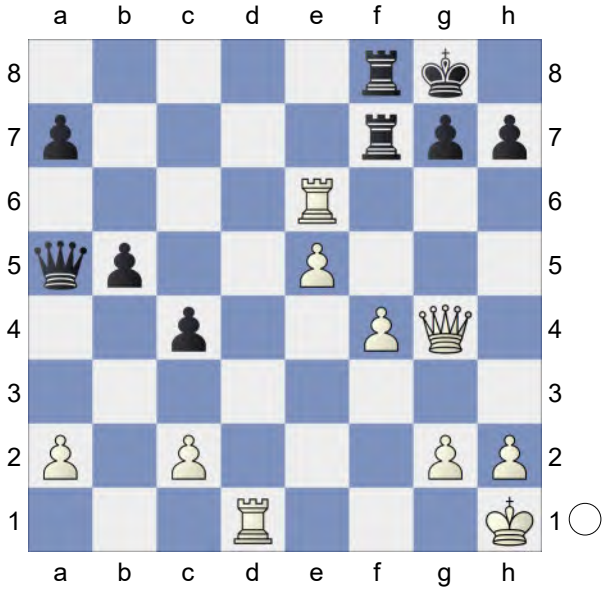


27.Qg4!→ White has strong attack. White is more active. **27...Re7** 2.33/21

[27...Qxa2 28.Rd7 g6 29.f5 *(29.Qh4 h5=)* 29...Qxc2 *(29...Rxf5? 30.Rxh7* Decoy *Kxh7 31.Rd7+ Kh6 32.Qh4+ Rh5 33.Qf4+ Rg5 34.h4+-* Pin *)* 30.f6+-]

[27...Qc3± 1.22/22 was called for.]

28.Rxe6+- Ref7



29.g3 Qxa2 30.Qe2 a5? 5.17/19

[30...b4 2.23/20]

31.Red6 c3 32.e6

[32.Qxb5 Qxc2 33.Qc4 *(33.Qxa5? Qe4+ 34.Kg1 c2-+)* 33...Qb2±]

32...Re7 33.f5

[33.Qxb5 Qxc2 34.Qd5 Qe2=]

33...Qa3? 7.92/21

[And not 33...Rxf5 34.Rd8+]

[33...Qc4 3.72/20 34.Qxc4 bxc4]

34.Qxb5 Qb4 35.Qd5 and Rd7 should not be overlooked **35...g6 36.fxg6 hxg6 37.Rd7 Rfe8?** 6.70/25

[37...Rf5 3.23/21 38.Qc6 Rf2]

38.Re1 a4 39.Kg2 Qb6 40.Re4 White wants to mate with Rg4. **40...Rxe6 41.Rg4**

[41.Rxa4 Qe3 42.Kh3 Qe1±]

41...Kh8 42.Rh4+

[42.Rxa4 Qc6 43.Rc4 Qxd5+ 44.Rxd5 Re2+ 45.Kf3 Rxc2+-]

42...Kg8 43.Rh6

[Weaker is 43.Rxa4 Qe3 44.Kh3 Qh6+ 45.Rh4 Qf8±]

43...g5 Weighted Error Value: White=0.62/Black=1.56 **44.Qxg5+**

1-0

43 **C11**

□ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2835**

■ **Firouzja,Alireza** **2777**

Julius Baer Rapid Div 1 W (3.3) 01.09.23

[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.Qd2 Be7 9.Bd3 c4N**

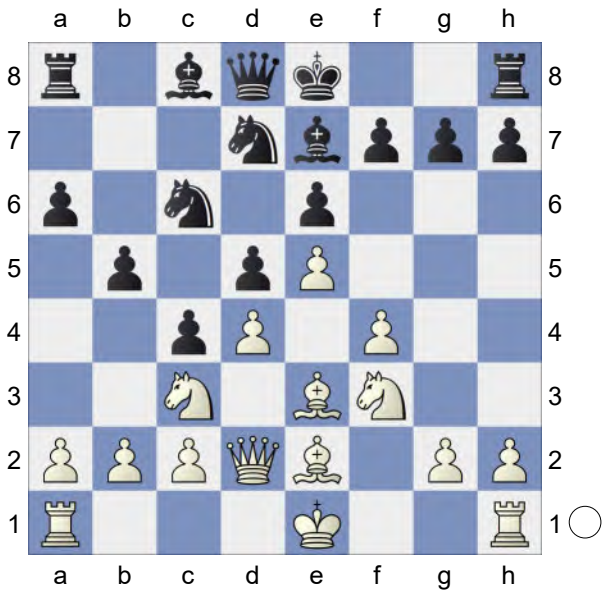
[9...b5

A) 10.a3 c4 11.Be2 Nb6 12.0-0 Bd7 13.Bd1 g6 14.h3 Qc7 15.Bf2 h6 16.Ne2 a5 17.c3 0-0-0 18.Bh4 Bxh4 19.Nxh4 Kb7 20.Nf3 Ra8 21.Bc2 Qd8 22.g4 Qe7 23.Ng3 b4 24.axb4 axb4 0-1 Buchicchio,G (2753)-Hantel,T (2753) Amsterdam VSB 1993 (3.1) 25.Rxa8 Rxa8 26.f5 gxf5 27.gxf5 Ra2 28.Qc1 bxc3 29.bxc3 Qa3 30.Bb1 Qxc1 31.Rxc1 Rb2 32.f6 Na4 33.Bh7 Na5 34.Bg6 Nb3 35.Re1 Be8 36.Nf5 fxg6 37.Nd6+ Kc7 38.Nxe8+ Kd7 39.Nd6 g5 1-0 Anand,V (2720)-Kamsky,G (2695) Sanghi Nagar (m/3) 61/343 1994;

B) 10.Qf2 b4 11.Na4 *(11.Nd1 Qb6 12.0-0 cxd4 13.Nxd4 Nxd4 14.Bxd4 Qxd4 15.Qxd4 Bc5 16.c3 Bb7 17.Nf2 Bxd4 18.cxd4 Ke7 19.f5 Nb8 20.Ng4 exf5 21.Ne3 g6 22.Rac1 Rd8 23.g4 Nc6 24.gxf5 Rac8 25.Rf4 g5* 1-0 Macovei,A (2438)-Ozenir,E (2386) Texas Collegiate Finals 2023 (3.11)*)* 11...c4 12.Be2 0-0 13.b3 Bb7 14.0-0 Rc8 15.h3 Na7 16.Kh2 Nb5 17.Rac1 f6 18.Qe1 fxe5 19.fxe5 Qe8 20.Qg3 Qg6 21.Qxg6 hxg6 22.Nd2 Rxf1 23.Rxf1 Na3 24.Bg4 Nf8 0-1 Dominguez Perez,L (2748)-Korobov,A (2650) Julius Baer GenCup Pl/In rapid 2024 (1);

C) 10.0-0 0-0 11.Nd1 c4 12.Be2 f5 13.Ng5 Nb6 14.g4 h6 15.Nh3 Kh7 16.Kh1 b4 17.Rg1 g6 18.Rg2 Rg8 19.Bf2 Bd7 20.b3 c3 21.Qd3 Qf8 22.Ng1 fxg4 23.Rxg4 Nc8 24.Qh3 1-0 Beecham,C (2476)-Voveris,G (2415) corr MT-Zavanelli B (LTU) 2018]

10.Be2 b5



11.f5 0.28/19 **Nb6 12.fxe6 fxe6** 1.10/20

[12...Bxe6± 0.34/20 13.a3 0-0]

13.0-0 0.65/20

[13.a3± 1.10/20]

13...0-0 1.74/19

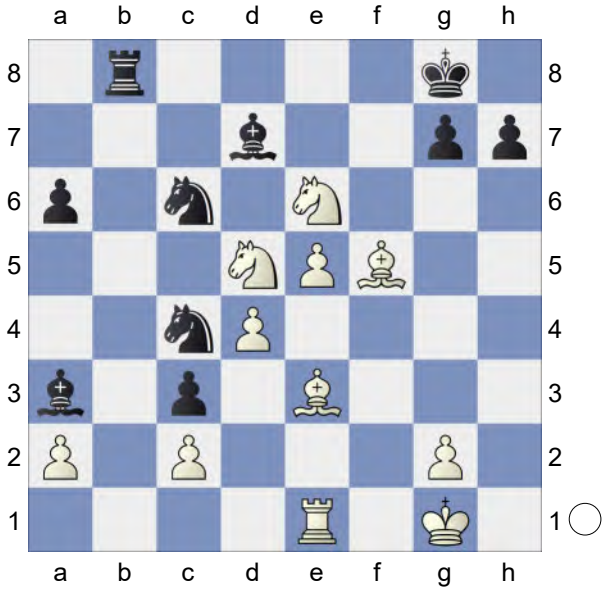
[13...b4± 0.65/20]

14.Ng5 1.10/21

[14.a3+- 1.74/19]

14...Qe8 2.04/19

[14...b4± 1.10/21]
15.Bg4 1.08/21
[White should play 15.Rxf8++- 2.04/19 Bxf8 16.Re1]
15...b4 2.52/22
[15...Rxf1+± 1.08/21 16.Rxf1 Qg6]
16.Ne2 1.09/20
[16.Bxe6+? Bxe6 17.Rxf8+ Bxf8-+]
[16.Rxf8++- 2.52/22 and the rest is easy. Bxf8 17.Ne2]
16...Rxf1+± 17.Rxf1 c3 18.bxc3 White is more active.
[18.Bxe6+ Bxe6 19.bxc3 Bg4 20.cxb4 Nc4-+ *(20...Nxb4? 21.Ng3-+; 20...Bxb4? 21.Qd3-+)*]
18...Qg6? 4.08/23
[18...Nc4± 0.84/20 is a better chance. 19.Qd3 *(19.Bxe6+? Bxe6 20.Qd3 Bxg5-+)* 19...Qg6 20.Qxg6 hxg6]
19.h4
[19.cxb4 Nc4 20.Qc1 Nxe3 *(20...Bxb4 21.h4±)* 21.Qxe3 Bxg5∓ *(21...Qxg5 22.Qh3∓)*]
19...Nc4 20.Qc1 bxc3? 4.57/20
[20...Qh6 2.21/19 21.Nf4 Nd8]
21.Nf4+-
[21.Nxc3? h6 22.Ne2 hxg5 23.Bxg5 Bd7-+]
21...Qh6
[21...Bxg5? 22.Nxg6 Bxe3+ 23.Qxe3 hxg6 24.Qf4+- *(24.Qxc3 Bd7+-)*]
22.Ngxe6
[22.Bxe6+ Bxe6 23.Nfxe6 *(23.Ngxe6 Bxh4 24.Rf3 Rb8=)* 23...Bxg5 24.Nxg5 Qxh4=]
[22.Nfxe6 Nd8 *(22...Qxh4 23.Rf7=)* 23.Rf3 Qxh4∓]
22...Qxh4? 6.26/22
[22...Bd7 3.91/20 23.g3 *(23.Nxd5 Nxe3 24.Qxe3 Qxe3+ 25.Nxe3 Nxd4±)* 23...Re8]
23.Nxd5 Bd7 24.Bf5 Ba3 25.Qe1 2.68/21
[⌓25.Qd1 4.98/23 Strongly threatening Bg5. Bxe6 26.Bxe6+ Kh8 27.Bf2]
25...Qxe1 26.Rxe1 Rb8? 5.15/20
[26...Rf8 2.21/19]

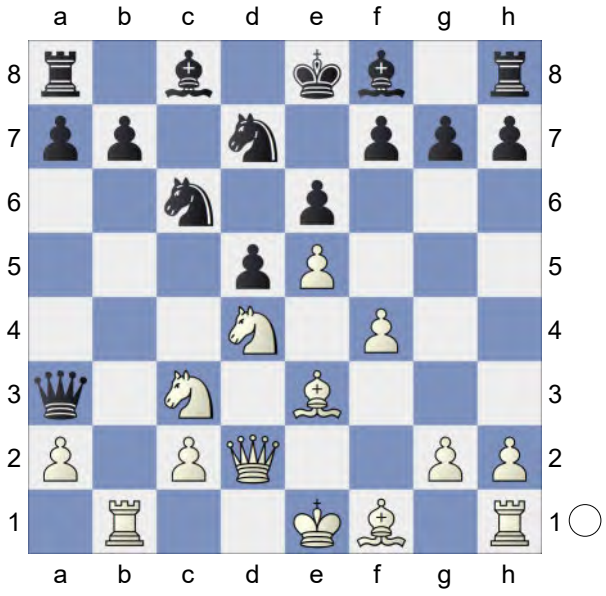


27.Nxg7! Discovered Attack **27...Kxg7**
[27...Bc8 28.Ne6]
28.Bxd7 Nxe3 29.Nxe3 2.10/18
[⌓29.Rxe3 4.79/22 Nxd4 30.Kh2 *(30.Rxc3? Ne2+ 31.Kf2 Nxc3-+; 30.Nxc3 Rd8±)*]
29...Nxd4 30.Nf5+ 0.84/21
[30.Kh2+- 2.32/21]
30...Nxf5± 31.Bxf5 Endgame KRB-KRB. White is a pawn up. **31...Rb2 32.Rd1** 0.71/22
[⌓32.Kf2 1.31/22]
32...Rxa2 1.80/21
[32...h5± 0.71/22]
33.Kf2 0.89/21
[33.Rd7++- 1.80/21 has better winning chances. Kf8 34.Rxh7]
33...a5 1.84/23
[33...Be7± 0.89/21 was worth a try.]
34.Rd7++- Kh6? 14.55/27
[34...Kf8± 1.59/21 35.Ke2 *(35.Bxh7 a4±; 35.Rxh7 Rb2±)* 35...h5]

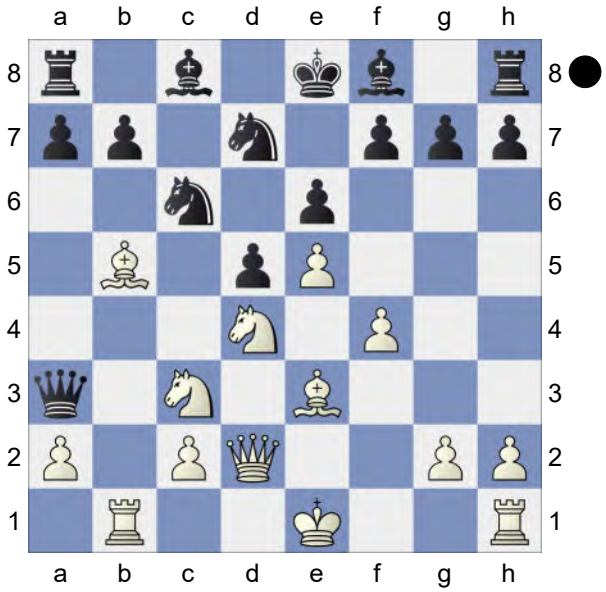
35.Kf3 White is clearly winning. **35...Kg5 36.g4 Bf8 37.Rxh7 Bh6** Weighted Error Value: White=0.79/Black=0.93 **38.e6**
1-0

44 **C11**
□ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2835**
■ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2863**
chess24.com (Internet-m/1-rapid) 2020
[Foisor,Sabina, TA]

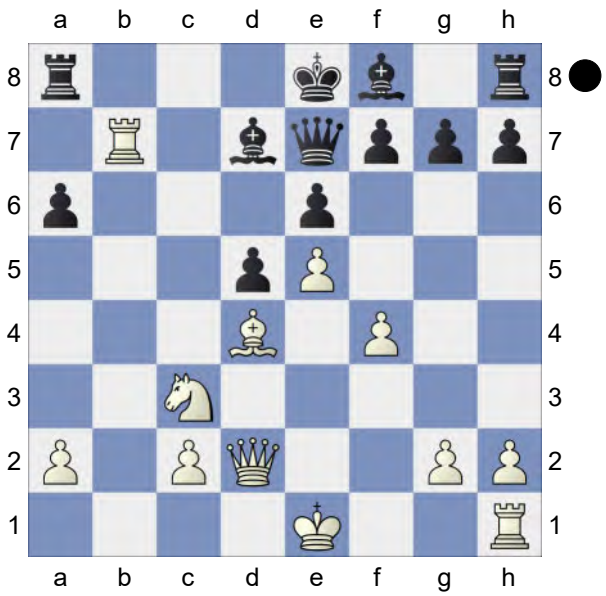
I chose this game as our final example, reminding us that having the space is not the only necessary thing if we are trying to maintain advantage. Finding the optimal placement for our pieces to be able to meet (as stoping is not always an option, especially if the opponent can strike back) the opponent's pawn breaks in a way that still helps us keep the advantage - is a tall order in many situations. C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Qb6 9.Qd2 Qxb2 10.Rb1 Qa3** Diagram



This is the position I was refering to. White has more space, but is lagging in development. Also, before making a decision, White has to think how to stop Black's break with f6. In this position White has a number of good moves. Let us examine them, though in my opinion, Fabiano, did not choose any of those and allowed Black to equalize. **11.Bb5!** The move that hands over the initiative. Diagram



11...Nxd4 An important pawn push, unfolding Black's developmental advantage and addressing the a1-h8 diagonal weakness for White. **12.Bxd4 a6!** - after which everything is protected in Black's position, so he is ready to open up the f-file. Of course **13.Bxd7+** must be played, and after **13...Bxd7=** Black has equalized. White is slightly better. **14.Rb3** Offering a bait to the World Champion, but this is not something Magnus easily let go of. **14...Qe7**
[14...Qa5? 15.Bb6+- *(15.Rxb7 Bb4∓)*]
15.Rxb7 Diagram
(Diagram)



15...Qd8! Though not a pawn move yet, it is important to understand that the power play in the centre is more important than taking an exchange.

[15...Qh4+ 16.Qf2! *(16.Bf2* 0.25/21 16.Qf2 0.84 *)*]

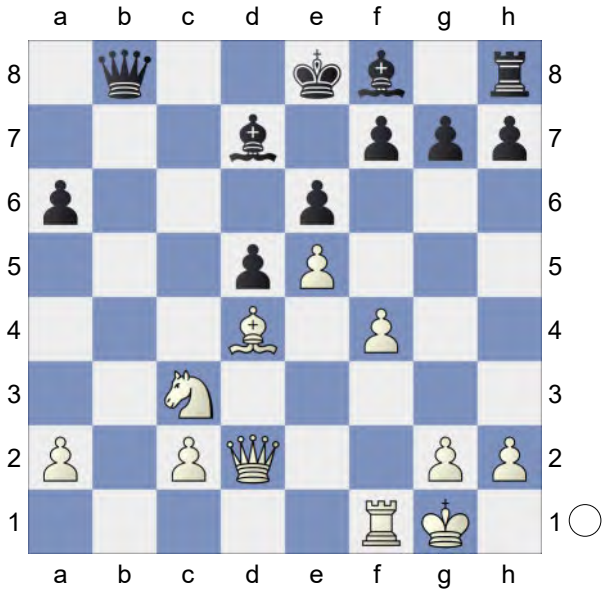
16.0-0

[16.Bb6 0.20/19 16.0-0 0.67 Qc8± and White is better. 17.Rc7? Qd8 18.Qd4! Prevents Bc5. Ba3]

16...Rb8 1.40/19

[16...Qc8± 0.47/18 17.Rb3 Bc5]

17.Rxb8!± Qxb8



Now it is time! **18.f5** 0.66/20 **Qc8** Might have been a little rushed to cover the king, but allowing White to trade the knights, which despite the rule: "when having material disadvantage, one should not trade", it is actually the right thing to do because it allows the Be3 to take control of the a1-h8 diagonal and put pressure on Black's king. **19.f6** 0.31/20

[19.Qe3 0.25/17 19.h3 0.88 exf5 20.Nxd5 Be6! 21.Qb3 Bc5 22.Qa4+ Kf8]

[19.h3± 0.83/19]

19...gxf6± 20.Qf4N 0.11/21

[20.Rxf6 h5 21.Rf3 Qc4 22.h3 Be7 23.a3 Bxa3 24.Ne4 dxe4 25.Rxa3 Rg8 26.Rb3 Qc7 27.Rc3 e3 28.Bxe3 Qxe5 29.Rd3 Qb5 30.Rb3 Qc6 31.Rb8+ Bc8 32.c4 Qxc4 33.Rb4 Qc6 34.Rd4 f6 35.Kh1 Kf7 36.Rd6 Qb5 ½-½ Ernst,H (2792)-Brandt,C (2628) Moscow-ch44 1967 (5)]

[20.Rxf6± 0.58/20 Qc4 21.Rf2]

20...Qc4!= The position is equal.

[20...f5 0.79/20 20...Qc4 0.31 21.Nxd5! exd5 22.e6! Bb5! 23.c4! *(23.Bxh8* -0.58/25 23.c4 0.68 *Bxf1)*

A) 23...Qxc4? 10.60/22 23...fxe6 0.38 24.Rc1;

B) 23...Bxc4 24.Rb1!+- White controls several central key squares while Black's queen has no square to go to. Bc5 6.85/24 is good as well, but it seems scary to leave the king in e1 for one more move. *(⌓24...Bb5 4.01/26 25.exf7+ Kxf7)* 25.Rb8+- would have played a similar role in White's follow up plan to meet f6. Should I have to choose between the two queen moves, I would

prefer the c2 square to the e2 one. Bxd4+ 26.Qxd4!;

C) 23...fxe6! 24.cxb5! Bc5! *(24...Rg8? 8.15/20 24...Bc5 0.55 25.Rc1 Qb7 26.b6)* 25.bxa6 Rg8! 26.a7 0.33/21 *(White should try 26.Bxc5± 0.85/22* and Qd6 would now be decisive *Qxc5+ 27.Kh1)* 26...Kf7! *(26...Rg4? 11.18/21* 26...Kf7 0.38 *27.Qb8∞)*]

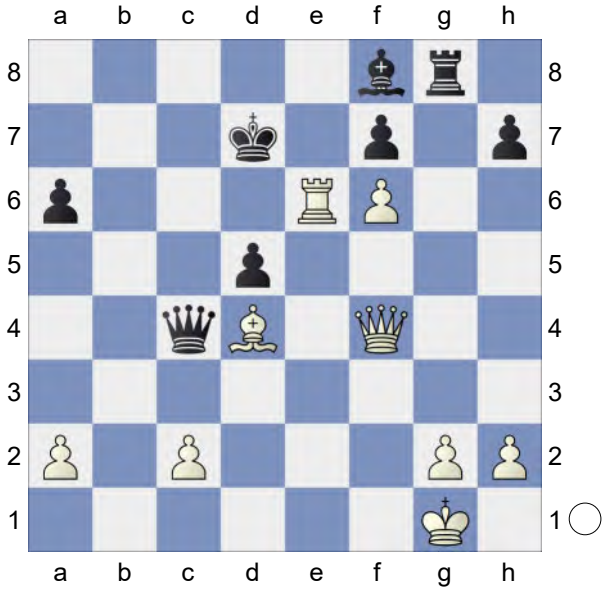
[20...f5 21.Nxd5! exd5 22.e6! fxe6 23.Bxh8±]

21.exf6 Rg8!

[21...Bd6? 22.Qxd6 Qxd4+ 23.Kh1+-]

22.Nxd5 exd5 23.Re1+ Kd8! An innacurate decision by Magnus, probably fearing Bf3-d5.

[23...Be6? 7.48/22 23...Kd8 0.01 24.Rxe6+ Kd7 *(24...fxe6 25.f7+* and Black does not have anything better than *)*

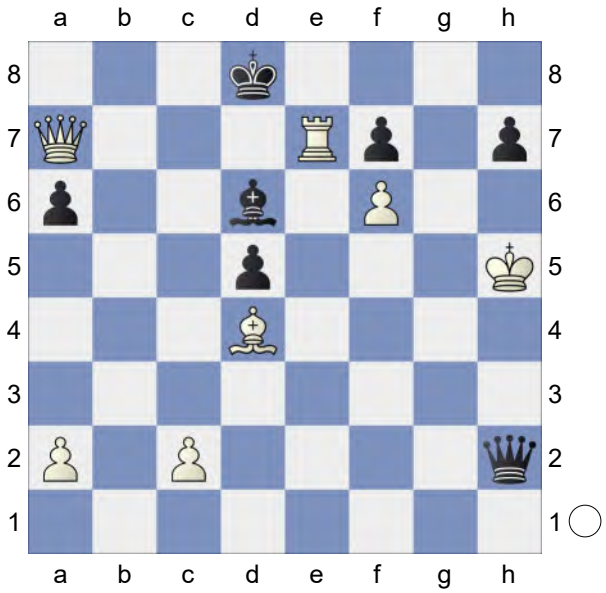


25.Rb6!]

24.Qb8+ Bc8?! A weakening pawn move in time pressure, which could have been taken advantage of by Fabiano.

25.Qa7 Be6

[25...Bd6 26.Re7! Inhibits Bb7. Rxg2+!= 27.Kxg2 might have been Magnus's idea, but after Bh3+! 28.Kf3! he might have not liked White's typical attacking idea *(28.Kxh3?* -#6/14 28.Kf3 -0.01 *Qf1+-+* However *29.Kh4!* could have kept Black's initiative alive as follows: *Qf4+ 30.Kh5 Qxh2+* Diagram



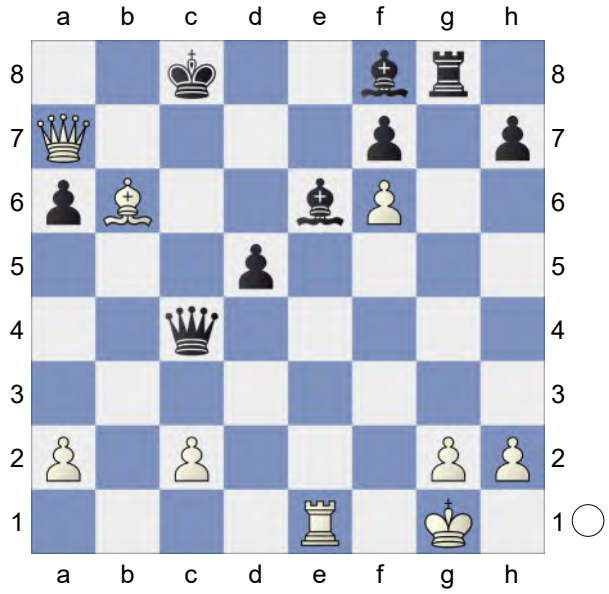
31.Kg4! Qg3+ 32.Kh5∓ giving up the c-pawn in order to take White's bishop away from the a1-h8 diagonal; and now with the Qe3 it is not easy for White to continue the attack. However, playing this position with Black in a rapid game is not as simple as engines make it to be. The pair of bishops can indeed be posing Black a lot of troubles. *Qh3+!* would have kept the position balanced: *33.Kg5 h6#)* 28...Qf1+!? after which the position is not clear: 29.Bf2 Qd1+∞ 30.Ke3! would not work in view of Qc1+ 31.Kf3! Threatening mate with Bb6+. Qd1+ and the g2 square cannot be protected -]

[25...Qxa2 26.Bb6#]

26.Bb6+?! Kc8 Diagram

[26...Ke8? #2/6 26...Kc8 0.01

27.Rxe6+! fxe6 28.f7#]



27.Qa8+? Now White is in trouble. **27...Kd7 28.Qb7+?! Kd6 29.Ba7?! Rxg2+** Decoy **30.Kxg2??⊕** Time trouble hallucination. **30...Qg4+ 31.Kh1 Qf3+ 32.Kg1 Qg4+ 33.Kh1** had to be played, but of course Black's position is superior with the rooks having taken over the d-file and White not being able to build a strong attack against Black's king which will start its march on the queenside shortly if necessary (Ke8-d7-c8). Weighted Error Value: White=0.06 (flawless) /Black=0.06 (flawless) **33...Qf3+** Loss on time!? **0-1**

45 **C11**
□ **Carlsen,M.** **2833**
■ **Shirov,A.** **2652**
Titled Tue 4th Mar Late blitz (7) 04.03.25
[Kitty Kat,TA]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 The influence that artificial intelligence (AI) has had on modern chess was revealed in Singapore at the end of the press conference for the sixth game: Gukesh and Ding were asked about a book that had made a lasting impression on them in their careers, and both the Indian and the Chinese player named 'Game Changer' by Matthew Sadler and Natasha Regan. In this book from 2019, the authors presented their research into the groundbreaking strategies of the chess AI AlphaZero. It remained more of a footnote to the work that AlphaZero would never voluntarily play the French Defence. In retrospect, this almost supreme aversion to the often cramped positions after 1.e4 e6 also seemed to confirm the preferences of the World Championship finalists of past decades: Viktor Korchnoi had last played the French against Anatoly Karpov at the 1978 World Championship, before Ding tried it (and lost) in a game against Nepomniachtchi in 2023. With this in mind, it seems interesting that Ding always replied with the French to 1. e4 against Gukesh in Singapore - and even scored two points from three games. Welchen Einfluss Künstliche Intelligenz (KI) auf das moderne Schach bekommen hat, offenbarte sich in Singapur am Ende der Pressekonferenz zur sechsten Partie: Gukesh und Ding wurden nach einem Buch gefragt, das sie in ihrer Karriere nachhaltig beeindruckt habe; und sowohl der Inder als auch der Chinese nannten „Game Changer“ von Matthew Sadler und Natasha Regan. In diesem Buch aus dem Jahr 2019 haben die Autor:innen ihre Untersuchungen zu den bahnbrechenden Strategien der Schach-KI AlphaZero präsentiert. Eher eine Fußnote des Werks blieb, dass

AlphaZero niemals freiwillig die französische Verteidigung spielen würde. Diese quasi höchstinstanzliche Abneigung gegenüber den oft beengten Stellungen nach 1.e4 e6 schien im Nachhinein auch die Vorlieben der WM-Finalisten vergangener Dekaden zu bestätigen: Zuletzt hatte Viktor Kortschnoi bei der WM 1978 gegen Anatoli Karpov Französisch gespielt, ehe es Ding im Jahr 2023 gegen Nepomniachtchi in einer Partie versuchte (und verlor). Vor diesem Hintergrund erscheint es interessant, dass Ding gegen Gukesh in Singapur auf 1.e4 immer Französisch antwortete – und damit sogar zwei Punkte aus drei Partien holte. **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.a3**

[7.Nf3 f6 8.Nf4 Qe7 9.exf6 Nxf6 10.Bb5 cxd4 11.Nxd4 Qd6 12.Qe2 Kf7 13.Nf3 e5 14.Bxc6 exf4 15.Ne5+ Kg8 16.Ba4 Bd7 17.Nxd7 Nxd7 18.0-0 Nc5 19.Bc2 Qe6 20.Qf3 Bd6 21.Rd1 Re8 1-0 Selepe,L (1930)-Palmer,R (2087) Cape Town Masters 2025 (7)]

7...f6N

[7...Be7 8.Be3 Nb6 9.Nf4 cxd4 10.cxd4 Nc4 11.Bxc4 dxc4 12.Nge2 b5 13.0-0 0-0 14.Nc3 Rb8 15.Nh5 f5 16.exf6 Bxf6 17.Qf3 Qe8 18.Nxf6+ Rxf6 19.Qe2 Qg6 20.f3 Rf8 21.Rad1 Ne7 22.Bf4 ½-½ Gukesh,D (2783)-Ding,L (2728) World-ch Ding-Gukesh 2024 (13)]

[7...a5 8.Nf3 a4 9.h4 Qa5 10.Bd2 Qb6 11.Rb1 Be7 12.Be3 0-0 13.Nf4 Qb3 14.Qc1 cxd4 15.cxd4 Na5 16.Bd3 h6 17.Rh3 Nc4 18.Bc2 Qb5 19.Nh5 Nxe3 20.Qxe3 f5 21.Rg3 Rf7 22.Qxh6 1-0 Carlsen,M (2831)-Nepomniachtchi,I (2755) CCT Final KO 2024 rapid (2.5)]

8.exf6 -0.20/22

[8.Nf4 0.18/21]

8...Nxf6 9.Nf3 Bd6 The position is equal. **10.g3 0-0 11.Bg2 e5** 0.42/20

[11...cxd4= 0.02/19 12.cxd4 Qa5+ 13.Bd2 Qb6]

12.dxe5⩲ Nxe5 13.Nxe5 Bxe5 14.0-0 Bg4 15.h3 0.01/19

[15.Re1⩲ 0.37/20]

15...Bh5= 16.Bg5 Bf7 0.36/20

[16...Kh8= -0.06/20 should be considered.]

17.Nf4↑ White has the initiative.

17...Bxf4 18.Bxf4 Qb6 1.01/19

[18...Re8⩲ 0.50/20]

19.b4± aiming for Be3. **19...Rad8 20.Be3** This pair of bishops is nice.

20...Ne4 21.bxc5 Nxc5 22.Rb1 0.61/19

[22.Qd4± 1.24/19 Nb3 23.Qxb6 axb6 24.Rab1]

22...Qc7 23.Qg4 0.39/18

[23.Rb4± 0.90/18]

23...Be6 0.88/18

[23...Bg6⩲ 0.39/18]

24.Qe2 0.42/20

[White should play 24.Qb4± 0.88/18 b6 25.Rbd1]

24...Rfe8⩲ 25.Rfe1 Ne4 1.06/20

[25...Bf5= 0.19/20]

26.Bd4 0.70/18

[26.Bxa7± 1.06/20 Nxc3 27.Qc2]

26...Bf5 1.16/18

[26...Qc8⩲ 0.70/18]

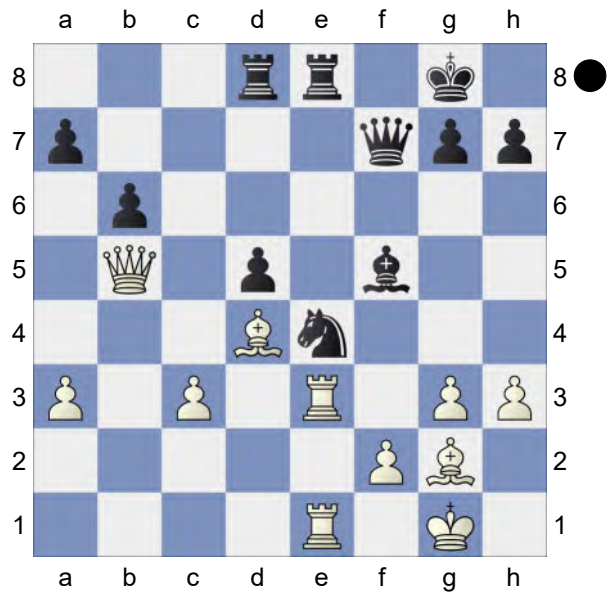
27.Qb5±

[27.Bxa7?! Nf6 28.Qb2 *(28.Bb6 Qd6=)* 28...Bxb1 29.Rxb1 Rd7=]

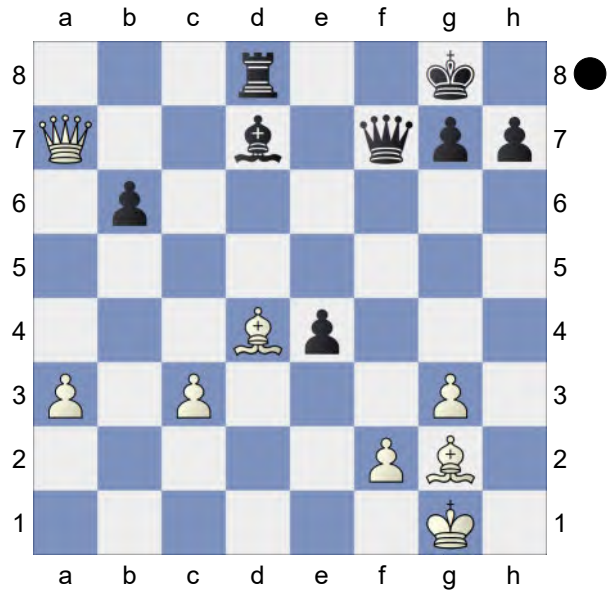
27...b6 28.Re3 Qf7 29.Rbe1 -0.55/16

[29.Rb2± 0.93/16]

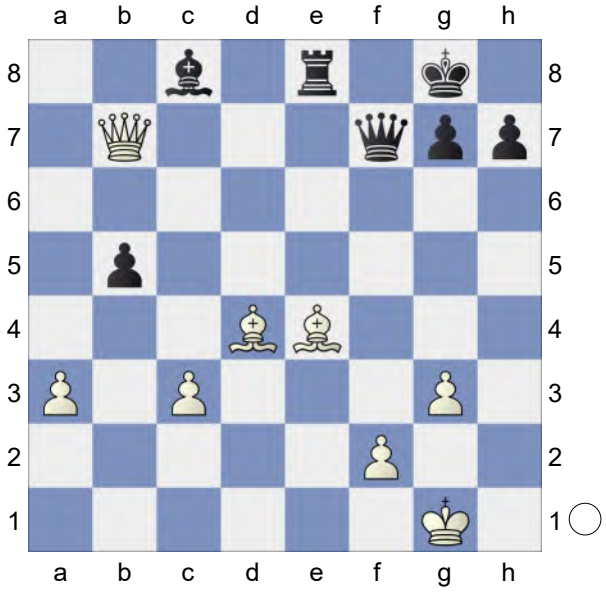
(Diagram)



29...Bxh3!∓ 30.Rxe4 -0.77/19
[30.Rf3∓ -0.41/22 Qh5 31.Rfe3 Bxg2 32.Kxg2]
[30.Bf3 h5]
30...Rxe4∓ 31.Rxe4 -2.76/20
[31.Bxe4∓ -0.60/23 dxe4 32.Qc6]
31...Bd7-+ 32.Qa6 dxe4 -1.00/24
[32...Bc8-+ -3.07/28 and Black stays clearly on top. 33.Qd3 dxe4 34.Bxe4 Re8]
33.Qxa7∓



b5 -0.30/27
[Better is 33...e3!∓ -0.86/25 White must now prevent ...e2. 34.Bxe3 b5]
34.Bxe4= Re8 -0.03/28
[34...Rc8∓ -0.48/28]
35.Qb7 Bc8? #16/29
[35...Kh8∓ -0.36/29]



Weighted Error Value: White=0.27 (precise) /Black=0.55 **36.Bxh7+!** Deflection
1-0

46 **C11**
□ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2832**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2778**
FIDE World Bl Team Final (4.2) 05.08.24
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.Nf3 Be7 8.a3 a5** 0.77/23
[8...0-0= -0.01/20]
9.h4 0.34/22
[9.Nf4± 0.77/23 Qb6 10.h4 a4 11.Be2 Ra7 12.Qd3 Na5 13.Rb1 Nb3 14.Be3 Qc7 15.Ng5 Nf8

16.Nh5 g6 17.Ng7+ Kd7 18.Nxf7 Rg8 19.Bh6 cxd4 20.cxd4 Qa5+ 21.Kf1 Rxg7 22.Qb5+ Qxb5 23.Bxb5+ Kc7 24.Bxg7 1-0 Rashed Abubaker,A (1796)-Sharvaanica,A (2030) Kuwait op 1st 2025 (6)]

9...a4N

[9...b5 10.Nf4 Ba6 *(10...Qb6 11.Be3 Bb7 12.Ng5 Nd8 13.Bd3 b4 14.axb4 axb4 15.Rxa8 Bxa8 16.Nxh7 Nf8 17.Nxf8 Kxf8 18.h5 bxc3 19.bxc3 cxd4 20.cxd4 Qb4+ 21.Ke2 Bc6 22.Qa1 Bb5 23.Bxb5 Qxb5+ 24.Kf3 Bg5 25.Rb1* 1-0 Xiao,T (2492)-Nilsen,T (2203) Titled Tuesday intern op 24th Sep Early blitz 2024 (5)*)* 11.Bd3 Qb6 12.Be3 Molina,R (2862)-Lunacek,J (2676) Norkom European Masters 2000 b4 13.Bxa6 Rxa6 14.axb4 axb4 15.0-0 0-0 16.Rxa6 Qxa6 17.h5 h6 18.Nh2 bxc3 19.bxc3 Qc4 20.Qg4 cxd4 21.cxd4 Nxd4 22.Rc1 Nc2 23.Nxe6 Qxg4 24.Nxg4 Nxe3 25.Nxf8 Kxf8 26.Rc8+ Carlsen,M (2862)-Maghsoodloo,P (2676) chess.com (Int.-m3/6-blitz) 146/(94) 2020]

10.Nf4 -0.01/21

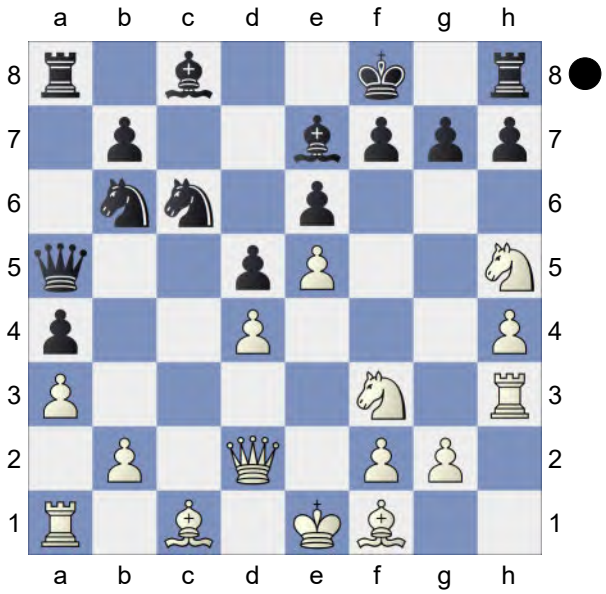
[10.Rh3± 0.40/19 should be considered.]

10...Qa5= 11.Bd2 Qb6 12.Bc1

[12.Nh5 0-0 13.Bd3 g6 14.Kf1]

12...Qa5 and ...cxd4 would now be decisive **13.Qd2 cxd4 14.cxd4 Nb6 15.Nh5 Kf8 16.Rh3**

(Diagram)



h6 17.Rg3 g6 18.Nf6 Nd7 19.Ng4 h5 20.Ne3! Nb6 21.Nc2 Bd7 22.Qxa5 Nxa5 23.Bg5 Rc8 24.0-0-0 Bxg5+ 25.Nxg5 Ke7 26.Kb1 Rc7 27.Rf3 Rf8 28.Be2

[28.Ne3 looks sharper. Nb3 29.Rf6 Rcc8 30.g3]

28...Nbc4 29.Bxc4 dxc4 2.84/25 Black is weak on the dark squares

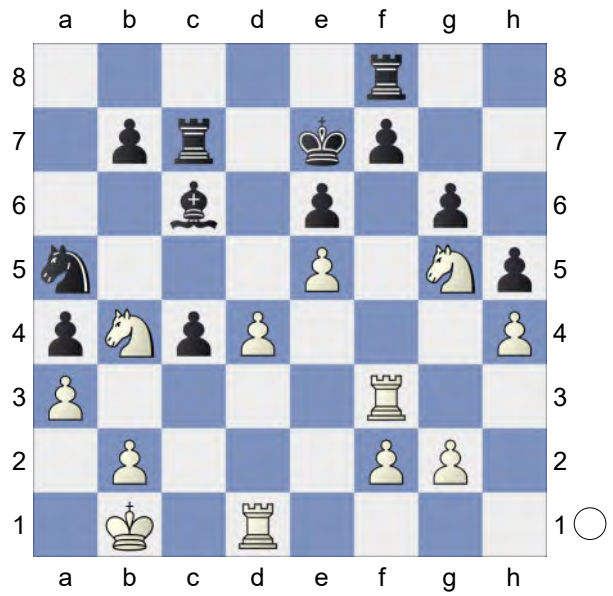
[29...Nxc4= -0.01/25 and Black has nothing to worry. 30.Rdd3 Ke8]

30.Nb4 and d5 would now be decisive

30...Bc6 2.87/23

[⌓30...c3 1.97/25 31.bxc3 *(31.Rxc3 Rxc3 32.bxc3 Nc4±)* 31...Bc6]

(Diagram)



31.Rf6? 0.52/26
[31.d5!+- 2.87/23 exd5 32.e6 *(32.Nxd5+ Bxd5 33.Rxd5 Nb3±)*]
31...Rd7 32.Kc2 Bd5! Black is now going downhill. **33.Kc3** White is much more active. **33...b5?** 4.72/24
[33...Nc6± 0.78/21 is tougher.]
34.f3+- Nb7 5.35/23
[⌓34...Nb3 3.73/22 35.g4 Bb7 36.gxh5 gxh5]
35.g4 Nd8 36.gxh5 gxh5 37.Rh6 Ke8? 8.98/24
[37...f6 2.80/21]
38.Nh7
[Weaker is 38.Rxh5 f6+-]
38...Bxf3 39.Rf1 Bg4 40.Nxf8 Kxf8 41.Rh8+ Kg7 42.Re8 Nb7 43.Nc6 Bf5 44.Rg1+ Bg4 45.Rf1? -0.01/22
[Better is 45.Kb4+- 8.45/23 Kg6 46.Kxb5]
45...Bf5!= 46.Re7 White is clearly winning. **46...Rxe7 47.Nxe7+-** KRN-KBN **47...Bg4 48.Kb4 Kf8 49.Nc8 Nd8 50.Rf2 Nc6+ 51.Kc5 Ne7** Weighted Error Value: White=0.41/ Black=0.62 **52.Nxe7**
1-0

47 **C11**
□ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2831**
■ **Shimanov,Aleksandr** **2593**
World Rapid 2024 (4.1) 26.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 cxd4 7.cxd4 f6 8.exf6** 0.08/20
[8.f4± 0.50/21]
8...Nxf6= 9.Nf3 Nc6 10.Nc3
[10.Ng3 Bb4+ 11.Bd2 Qb6 12.Bxb4 Qxb4+ 13.Qd2 Bd7 14.a3 Qxd2+ 15.Kxd2 Ne4+ 16.Ke3 Nd6 17.Rc1 Ke7 18.Bd3 Rac8 19.Ne5 Nxe5 20.dxe5 Nc4+ 21.Bxc4 dxc4 22.Ne4 b5 23.Rhd1 Bc6 24.Nd6 Rb8 ½-½ Carlsen,M (2830)-Terry,R (2521) Titled Tue 2nd Apr Early blitz 2024 (7)]
[10.Nf4 Bb4+ 11.Bd2 Bxd2+ 12.Qxd2 Ne4 13.Qe3 Qa5+ 14.Nd2 Qxd2+ 15.Qxd2 Nxd2 16.Kxd2 Nxd4 17.Bd3 0-0 18.g3 Bd7 19.h4 e5 20.Nxd5 Rxf2+ 21.Ke3 Rf3+ 22.Kd2 Rxg3 23.Rhf1 Rg2+ 24.Ke3 Nc2+ 1-0 Szpar,M (2477)-Glek,I (2402) Titled Tuesday intern op 17th Sep Early blitz 2024 (5)]
10...Bd6 11.Bb5 -0.01/21
[11.Bd3± 0.35/18]
11...0-0 12.0-0 Qb6N 0.35/22
[12...h6= -0.01/20 deserves consideration.]
[12...Bd7 13.Re1 Qc7 14.h3 Rae8 15.Be3 a6 16.Bf1 Re7 17.Rc1 Qb8 18.a3 Be8 19.b4 Bh5 20.Be2 Bf4 21.Qd2 Bxe3 22.Qxe3 e5 23.Nxe5 Nxe5 24.dxe5 Rxe5 25.Qd2 Bxe2 26.Rxe2 Rxe2 27.Nxe2 ½-½ Solodovnichenko,Y (2528)-Sumets,A (2569) Rochefort op-A17th

2018 (8.1) Rc8 28.Rd1 Qe5 29.Nf4 Kf7 30.Nd3 Qc3 31.Nc5 Qxd2 32.Rxd2 Rc7 33.g4 h6 34.f4 a5 35.g5 hxg5 36.fxg5 axb4 37.axb4 Ne4 38.Rxd5 Nxc5 39.bxc5 Ke6 40.Rd6+ Kf5 41.g6 Ke5 ½-½ Reiners,M (2528)-Wiesner,N (2569) Sautron op 11th 2011 (8.1)]

13.Re1± Bd7 14.Bxc6 bxc6 15.Na4 Qc7 16.Ne5 Prevents Ng4 **16...Be8** 0.92/25

[16...Ne4= 0.16/23]

17.Bf4 0.24/23 White is more active.

[17.Nc5± 0.92/25]

17...Ne4!= 18.Bg3 c5 1.11/26

[18...Qe7= 0.25/21 remains equal.]

19.Nxc5± Bxc5 20.Rc1! Pin

[20.dxc5 Qxc5 21.Rc1 Qb6±]

20...Qb6 21.dxc5 Nxc5 22.Re3! Ne4 1.61/22

[22...h6± 1.02/21]

23.Rb3!+- Nxf2? 3.45/28

[23...Qd6± 1.27/24 24.Qd4 Rf5]

24.Rxb6 Nxd1 25.Rb3

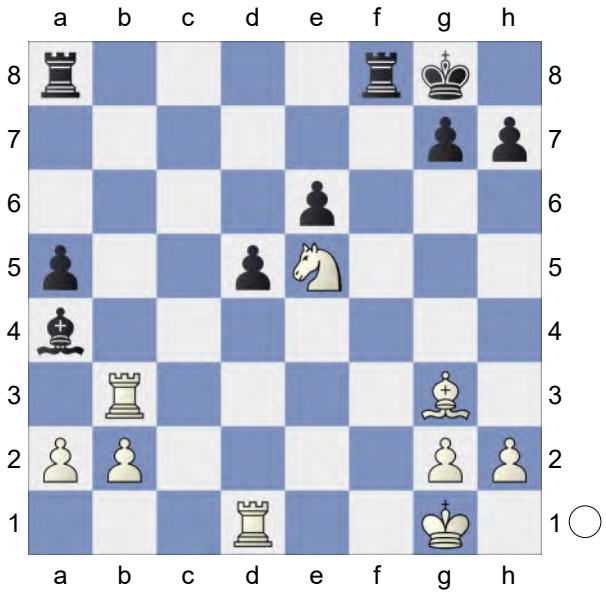
[25.Rxe6 Nxb2 26.Rc7 Bb5±]

25...a5? 5.18/24 Black is weak on the dark squares

[25...d4 2.86/24 was called for. 26.Rxd1 Ba4]

26.Rxd1 Ba4

(Diagram)



27.Nf3! Bxb3 28.axb3 Rfc8 29.Nd4 Ra6 3.45/23

[⌓29...a4 2.45/22 30.bxa4 *(30.Nxe6 Rc2±)* 30...Rxa4]

30.Ra1 Rca8 31.Kf2 Kf7 32.Be5 a4? 4.99/25

[32...h5 2.81/21 33.Rc1 Kg6]

33.Rc1 R8a7 34.Nc6 Ra8 35.Nb4 2.34/24

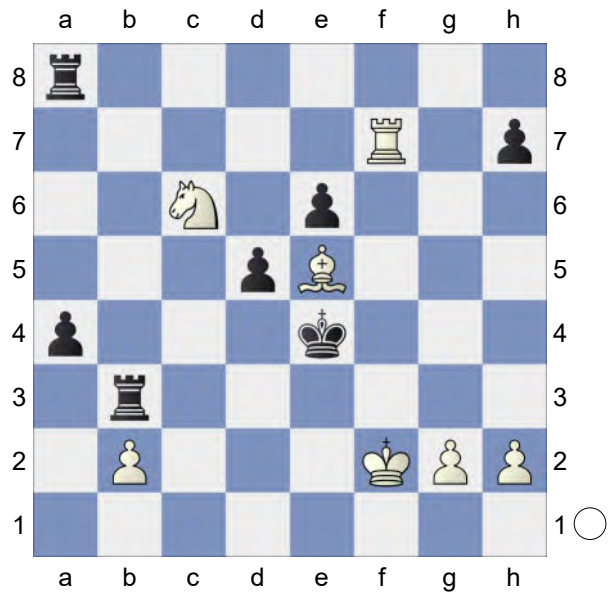
[⌓35.bxa4 4.79/23 Rxa4 36.Nd4]

35...Rb6 36.Rc7+ Kg6 37.Nc6 Rxb3 38.Rxg7+ Kf5 39.Rf7+

[39.Rxh7 Rf8 40.Ke2 Rb6±]

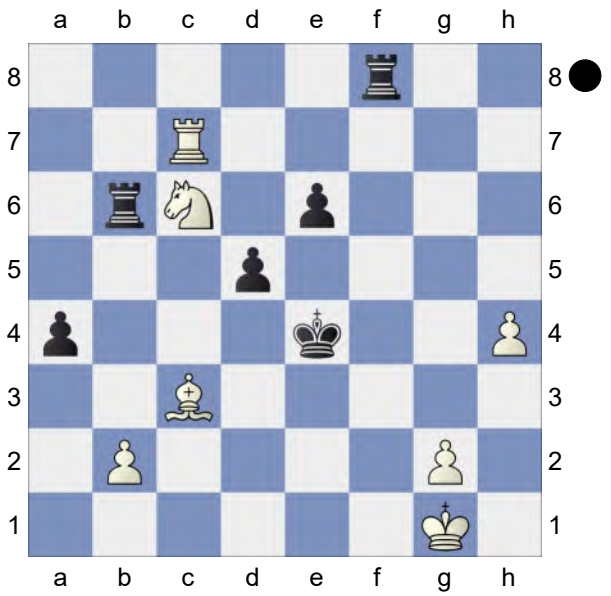
39...Ke4

(Diagram)

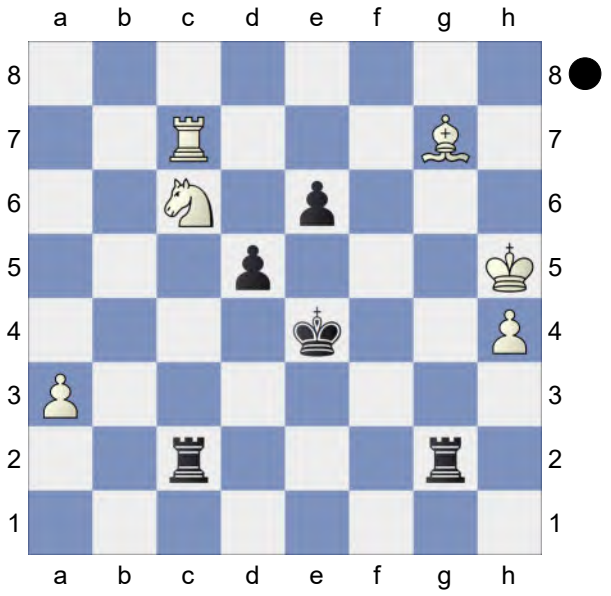


40.Rxh7? -0.01/28
[White must play 40.Rf4+!+- 2.84/29 Kd3 41.Ke1]
40...Rf8+= 41.Kg1
[41.Ke1!? Re3+□ 42.Kd2 *(42.Kd1 Rf1+ 43.Kd2 Rf2+ 44.Kd1 Rf1+ 45.Kd2 Rf2+ 46.Kd1 Rf1+=)* 42...Rf2+ 43.Kd1=]
41...Kd3? 5.22/26
[41...Re3= -0.01/28 42.g3 *(42.Rh4+ Kd3±)* 42...Rc8 43.Rh4+ Kd3 44.Nb4+ Ke2]
42.h4? 0.06/24
[42.Rh3++- 5.22/26 Kd2 43.Rxb3 axb3 44.h4 *(44.Nd4 Kd3+-)*]
42...Rb6 43.Rc7 Ke4! 44.Bc3

(Diagram)



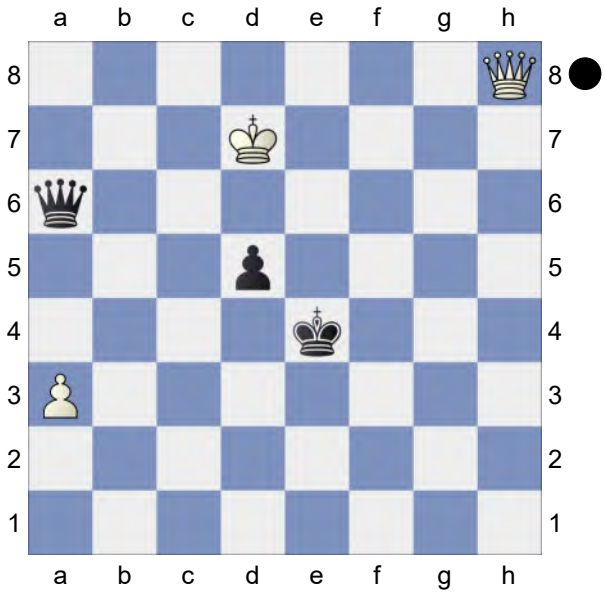
a3! 45.bxa3 Strongly threatening Kh2.
45...Rb1+ 46.Kh2 Rc1! 47.Bg7 Rf2 48.Kg3 -0.58/29
[48.a4= -0.01/28]
48...Rcc2∓ 49.Kg4? -5.43/28
[49.Kh3∓ -0.44/29]
49...Rxg2+-+
[49...Rxc6 50.Rxc6 Rxg2+ 51.Kh3 Rxg7 52.Rxe6+ Kf4 53.h5=]
50.Kh5



Rxg7! Deflection **51.Rxg7 Rxc6** Endgame KR-KR **52.Kg5** -8.73/22
[⌓52.Rd7 -4.63/24 d4 53.Kg5]

52...d4 53.Rd7 Rc5+ 54.Kg6 Rd5 55.Rxd5 exd5 -11.88/21 KPP-KPP
[⌓55...Kxd5 -#25/22 56.h5 d3 57.h6 d2 58.h7 d1Q *(58...d1B? 59.h8Q+-)* 59.h8Q Qg4+ 60.Kf7 Qf4+ 61.Qf6 Qxf6+ 62.Kxf6 e5 63.Kg5 e4 64.Kh4 e3 65.Kg3 Kc4 66.Kg2 Kd3 67.a4 e2 68.Kf2 Kd2 69.Kf3 e1Q *(69...e1R? 70.Kf4-+)* 70.Kf4 Qh4+ 71.Ke5 Qxa4 72.Ke6 Qc6+ 73.Kf5 Ke3 74.Ke5 Qd7 75.Kf6 Kf4 76.Kg6 Qe7 77.Kh6 Kf5 78.Kh5 Qh7#]
56.h5 d3 (→ ...d2) **57.h6 d2 58.h7 d1Q**
[58...d1B? 59.h8Q+- *(59.h8R d4=)*]
59.h8Q Repels Qa1. KQ-KQ **59...Qg1+?** -3.48/25
[59...Qg4+ -13.54/22 60.Kf6 Qf5+ 61.Ke7 Qe5+ 62.Qxe5+ Kxe5]
60.Kf7 Qa7+? -1.17/23
[60...Qf2+-+ -3.65/23 has better winning chances. 61.Ke6 d4 62.Qe5+ Kd3]
61.Ke6∓ Qa6+
[61...Qxa3 62.Qh4+ Ke3 63.Qh3+ *(63.Kxd5 Qd3+ 64.Kc5 Qf5+ 65.Kb6 Kd3=)* 63...Kf4 64.Qxa3 Ke4 65.Qa2 Kf4 66.Qxd5]
62.Kd7

(Diagram)

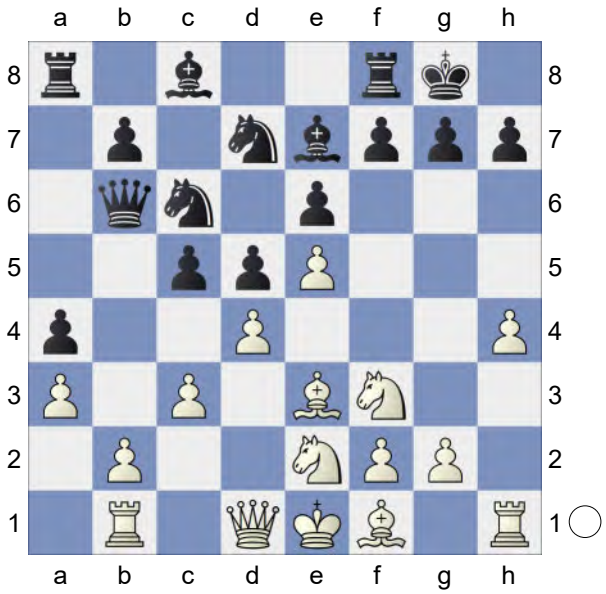


d4? -0.25/20
[Inferior is 62...Qxa3 63.Qh4+ Ke5 64.Qg5+ Kd4 *(64...Ke4 65.Qg4+ Ke5 66.Qg5+ Ke4 67.Qh4+ Ke5 68.Qg5+=)* 65.Qf4+ Kc3 66.Qe3+ Kb4 67.Qd4+ Kb5 68.Qxd5+ Qc5 69.Qd3+ Ka5 70.Qe4=]
[62...Qa4+!-+ -3.31/21 63.Ke7 *(63.Ke6 Qc6+ 64.Ke7 Qc4∓)* 63...Qxa3+ 64.Kd7 Qa7+ 65.Kd6 Qa6+ 66.Kd7 Qa4+ 67.Ke6 Qc6+ 68.Ke7 Qc4 69.Qh1+ Ke3 70.Qe1+ Kf3 71.Qh1+ Ke3]
63.Qh1+!= Ke5 64.Qh5+ Ke4 65.Qh1+ Ke3 ...Kd2! is the strong threat. **66.Qg1+ Ke4** 0.01/27
[66...Kd2!∓ -0.61/27 67.Qxd4+ Qd3 68.Qxd3+ Kxd3]
67.Qh1+ White used his chance. Weighted Error Value: White=0.78/ Black=0.62 **67...Ke5**
½-½

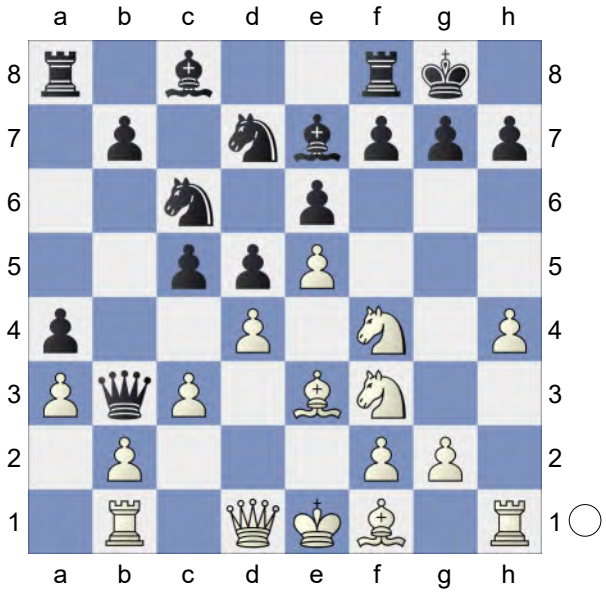
48 **C11**
□ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2831**
■ **Nepomniachtchi,Ian** **2755**
CCT Final KO 2024 rapid (2.5) 21.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.d4 e6 2.e4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.a3 a5** 7...Be7 is setting a new trend. 7...Le7 setzt einen neuen Trend. **8.Nf3 a4**
[8...b6 9.Nf4 Ba6 10.h4 Bxf1 11.Kxf1 h6 12.Qc2 Qc7 13.Rh3 c4 14.a4 Qb7 15.b3 b5 16.bxc4 bxc4 17.Rb1 Qc7 18.Nxe6 fxe6 19.Qg6+ Kd8 20.Qxe6 Ne7 21.Ba3 Ke8 22.Bxe7 Bxe7 23.Qxd5 1-0 2. Najdorf 6.Rg1 b5 (2427)-Ueckert,H (2445) Kecskemet 1990 (7. 4) 1-0 2. Najdorf 6.Rg1 b5 (2427)-Ueckert,H (2445) Kecskemet 1990 (7. 4)]
9.h4N
[9.Nf4 Qa5 10.Bd2 Qb6 11.c4 Nxd4 12.cxd5 Qxb2 13.Nxd4 Qxd4 14.dxe6 fxe6 15.Bb5 Qxe5+ 16.Be3 Ra5 17.Rb1 c4 18.Bxc4 Qc3+ 19.Qd2 Qxd2+ 20.Kxd2 Bxa3 12) Steinitz-Variante-12 | Steinitz ohne f2-f4 | Al 12) Steinitz-Variante-12 | Steinitz ohne f2-f4 | Al]
9...Qa5 The position is equal. **10.Bd2 Qb6 11.Rb1 Be7 12.Be3** 'N'
[12.g3 0-0 13.Bg2 f6 14.exf6 Nxf6 15.0-0 Bd7 16.Be3 Rae8 1-0 Babazada,K (2474)-Svane,F (2600) Titled Tuesday intern op 23rd May Early blitz 2023 (10)]
12...0-0 0.97/20
[12...Qa5= 0.00/18]

(Diagram)



13.Nf4!± Qb3



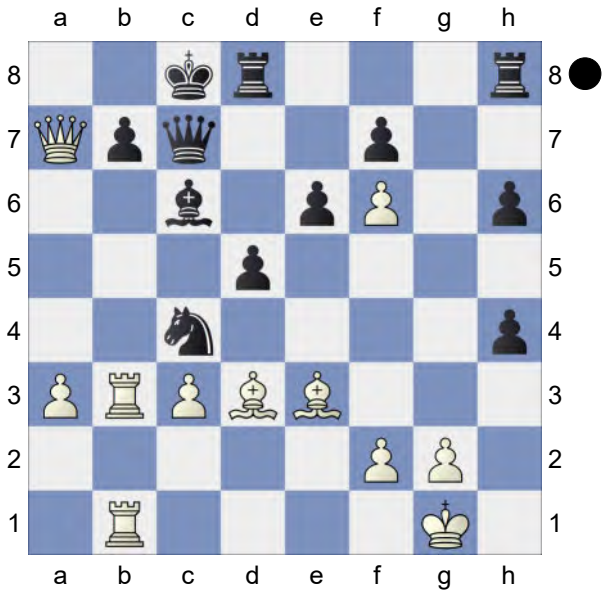
14.Qc1! cxd4 15.cxd4 Na5 16.Bd3 h6 2.46/19 Repels Ng5
[16...Rd8± 1.53/18 was called for. 17.0-0 Nf8]
17.Rh3+- Nc4 18.Bc2
[18.Nd2 Nxd2 19.Qxd2 f6]
18...Qb5 19.Nh5 Nxe3 5.26/20
[19...b6 2.22/16 is tougher. 20.Bxh6 Ba6 21.Bxg7 *(21.Nxg7* gets mated. *Nxa3)* 21...Nd2 Decoy]
20.Qxe3 White is clearly winning. **20...f5 21.Rg3 Rf7 22.Qxh6 Bf8 23.Qg6**

Weighted Error Value: White=0.18 (very precise) /Black=0.47
1-0

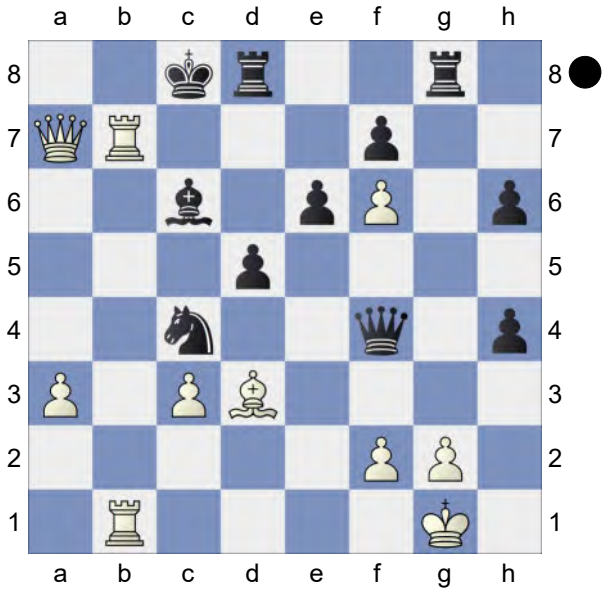
49 **C11**
□ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2831**
■ **Nepomniachtchi,Ian** **2755**
World Blitz Final KO 2024 (3.4) 31.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.a3 a5** 0.28/19
[⌓7...cxd4 -0.09/18 8.cxd4 f6]
8.Nf3 a4 9.h4 Nb6N 0.58/19
[9...Qb6!= 0.02/19]
[9...b5 10.Nf4 cxd4 11.Bxb5 Qb6 12.Bxc6 Qxc6 13.cxd4 Ba6 14.Ne2 Rc8 15.0-0 Qc2 16.Nc3 Qxd1 17.Rxd1 Nb6 18.Rb1 Be7 19.Bd2 Bd3 20.Rbc1 Kd7 21.Be1 Bf5 22.Nd2 Bxh4 23.f3 Bg5 24.Nb5 0-1 Obidjonov,O (2089)-Saya,E (2240) Titled Tuesday intern op 17th Sep Early blitz 2024 (7)]
[9...Qa5 10.Bd2 Qb6 11.Rb1 Be7 12.Be3 0-0 13.Nf4 Qb3 14.Qc1 cxd4 15.cxd4 Na5 16.Bd3 h6 17.Rh3 Nc4 18.Bc2 Qb5 19.Nh5 Nxe3 20.Qxe3 f5 21.Rg3 Rf7 22.Qxh6 Bf8 23.Qg6 1-0 Carlsen,M (2831)-Nepomniachtchi,I (2755) CCT Final KO 2024 rapid (2.5)]
10.Nf4± Na5 1.30/20
[10...cxd4± 0.50/19 11.cxd4 Nc4]
11.Rb1 0.52/19
[11.dxc5!± 1.30/20 Bxc5 12.Nh5]
11...Bd7 12.Bd3 h6 Repels Ng5 **13.0-0 Qc7 14.Re1 Nbc4 15.Nh5** 0.36/19
[15.Nd2± 0.79/18]
15...Bb5 1.31/20
[15...cxd4± 0.36/19 16.Nxd4 *(16.cxd4 Qb6±)* 16...0-0-0 *(16...Nxe5? 17.Rxe5 0-0-0 18.Re1+-)*]
16.dxc5± Qxc5 1.71/18
[16...0-0-0± 1.06/20]
17.Nd4!+- Bd7 1.94/20
[17...0-0-0± 1.26/17 18.Bc2 Nb6]
18.Qg4 1.46/19
[18.Bc2+- 1.94/20]
18...0-0-0± 19.Qf4 0.46/18
[19.Nxg7+- 1.72/16 Nh5 would now be deadly. Qc7 20.Nf3]
19...Qe7 1.28/19
[19...g6± 0.46/18]
20.b3 0.01/21
[White should try 20.Qg3± 1.28/19]
20...axb3 21.Nxb3 Nxb3 22.Rxb3 Bc6! 23.Be3 g5! 24.Qd4
[24.hxg5? hxg5 *(24...Nxa3? 25.g6+-)* 25.Qg4 Nxe5-+ *(25...Nxa3? 26.Ra1+-)*]
24...gxh4 0.44/23
[24...Qc7= 0.01/22 was preferable.]
25.Nf6 0.01/21
[25.Qa7± 0.44/23 b5 26.Qd4 *(26.Qa6+ Qb7=)*]
25...Bg7 26.Reb1
[26.Qxh4? Nxe5 *(26...Nxa3? 27.Ra1+-)* 27.Bb5 Qxf6-+ *(27...Bxf6? 28.Qa4-+)*]
26...Bxf6 27.exf6 Qc7 28.Qa7 -1.32/22
[28.Bxc4? dxc4 29.Qxc4 Rhg8-+]
[28.Bf4= 0.01/19 e5 29.Qa7 *(29.Bf5+? Kb8-+)*]

(Diagram)

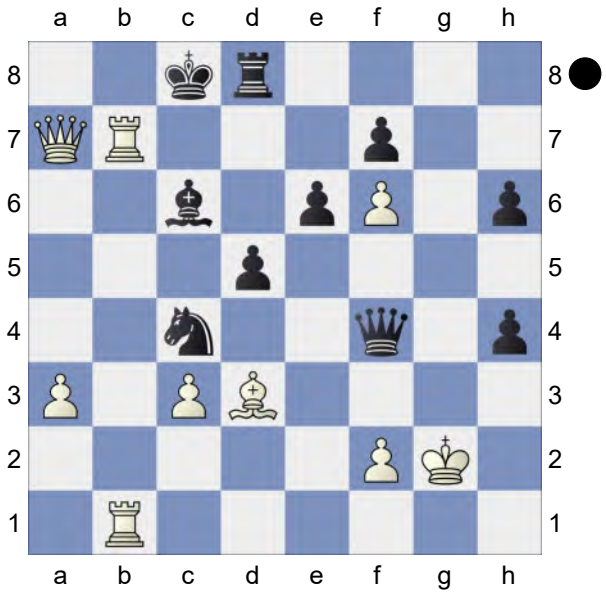


28...Rhg8!∓ The board is on fire. **29.Bf4?** -10.29/23 **Qxf4-+** Black is clearly winning. **30.Rxb7**



Rxg2+!! 31.Kxg2
[31.Kf1 Rxf2+]

(Diagram)



Quite a comeback for Black. Weighted Error Value: White=0.79/Black=0.27 (precise) **31...Ne3+!**
0-1

50 **C11**
□ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2830**
■ **Terry,Renato** **2521**
Titled Tue 2nd Apr Early blitz (7) 2.4.24
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 cxd4 7.cxd4 f6 8.exf6**
[8.Nf4 seems wilder. Bb4+ 9.Bd2 Qb6 10.Rc1]
[8.f4 fxe5 9.fxe5 Qh4+ 10.Ng3 Bb4+ 11.Kf2 0-0+ 12.Nf3 Nc6 13.Be3 Ndxe5 14.dxe5 Nxe5 15.Kg1 Qf6 16.Qd4 Bd6 17.Be2 Bd7 18.Rc1 b6 19.a3 Nxf3+ 20.gxf3 Be5 21.Qd2 Bxb2 22.Rc7 Rf7 1-0 Sethuraman,S (2742)-Kaussen,O (2605) RUS-CHN Summit (Women) 10th 2016]
8...Nxf6 9.Nf3 Nc6 10.Ng3N -0.61/20

[10.Nc3± 0.36/18 Bd6 11.Bd3 0-0 12.Bg5 Qe8 13.Qd2 Nh5 14.Ne2 e5 15.Nxe5 Nxd4 16.Nxd4 Qxe5+ 17.Be3 Nf4 18.Bf1 Bg4 19.h3 Bh5 20.g3 Rae8 21.gxf4 Rxf4 22.Be2 Rxd4 23.Qxd4 Qxd4 24.Bxd4 Rxe2+ 25.Kf1 0-1 Bosch,J (2470)-Lputian,S (2614) Hoogovens-B Wijk aan Zee 1999 (5) Re4 26.Bxa7 Be2+ 27.Kg2 Re6 28.f4 Bxf4 29.Rhe1 Bd2 30.Kf2 Bxe1+ 31.Rxe1 Ra6 32.Bd4 Bh5 33.Re7 Kf8 34.Rxb7 Rxa2 35.Bxg7+ Ke8 36.Ke3 Ra4 37.Bd4 Bg6 38.b4 Ra3+ 39.Kf4 Rxh3 40.Ke5 ½-½ Agamaliev,D (2534)-8.e5 b5 9. Qb3 (2566) USSR 42/22 1986 (5)]

[10.Nf4 Bb4+ 11.Bd2 Bxd2+ 12.Qxd2 Ne4 13.Qe3 Qa5+ 14.Nd2 Qxd2+ 15.Qxd2 Nxd2 16.Kxd2 Nxd4 17.Bd3 0-0 18.g3 Bd7 19.h4 e5 20.Nxd5 Rxf2+ 21.Ke3 Rf3+ 22.Kd2 Rxg3 23.Rhf1 Rg2+ 24.Ke3 Nc2+ 1-0 Szpar,M (2477)-Glek,I (2402) Titled Tuesday intern op 17th Sep Early blitz 2024 (5)]

10...Bb4+ 0.10/18

[10...Qb6!∓ -0.61/20]

11.Bd2= Qb6 12.Bxb4! Qxb4+ 13.Qd2 Bd7 14.a3 -0.49/20

[14.Rd1= 0.22/19]

14...Qxd2+∓ 15.Kxd2 Ne4+ 0.00/20

[15...Ng4!∓ -0.48/19 is more appropriate.]

16.Ke3 Nd6 17.Rc1 Ke7 18.Bd3 Rac8 19.Ne5 Nxe5 20.dxe5 Nc4+ 1.18/20

[20...Nf7!= 0.00/20 keeps the balance.]

21.Bxc4± dxc4 22.Ne4 Dodges Rc5

22...b5 23.Rhd1 Bc6 24.Nd6 Rb8 1.45/20

[⌓24...Rc7 1.03/20]

25.f4! h5 1.51/19

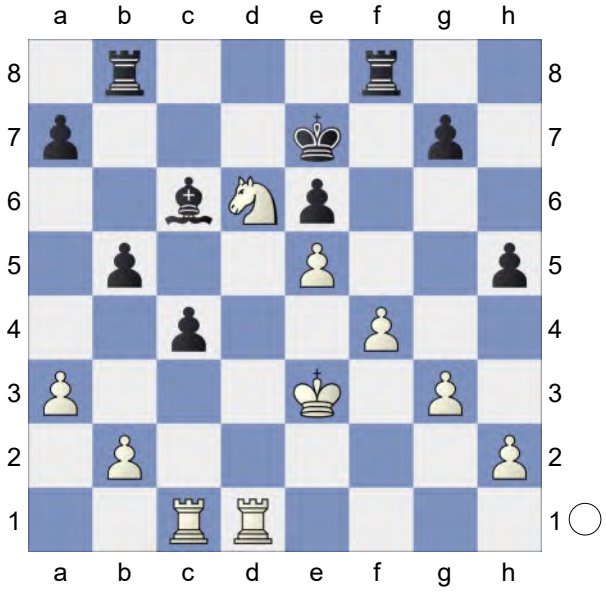
[⌓25...a5 1.12/19]

26.g3 0.91/19

[26.b4 1.51/19]

26...Rhf8 2.07/20

[26...a5± 0.91/19]



27.a4! 1.14/20 **a6** 2.40/19

[27...bxa4± 1.14/20 28.Rxc4 *(28.Nxc4 Bd5=)* 28...Rb6]

[27...Rfd8 28.axb5]

28.axb5+- axb5 29.Ra1 1.00/23

[29.b4+- 2.63/20 and White stays clearly on top.]

29...Ra8± 30.Kd4 0.80/24

[White should play 30.Rxa8 1.26/25 Rxa8 31.Kd4]

30...Bd7 1.33/23

[⌓30...Ra4 0.80/24]

31.Kc5 0.76/22

[⌓31.Rdc1 1.33/23]

31...Rfb8 1.32/21

[⌓31...Ra4 0.76/22]

32.h3 0.54/22 White is more active.

[32.Rxa8± 1.32/21 Rxa8 33.b3 *(33.Nxb5 Ra5∓)*]

32...Rf8 1.36/25

[32...Ra4!± 0.54/22]

33.Rxa8 0.97/27

[33.Nxb5 Rfc8+ 34.Kb4 Rab8∓]
[⌓33.Rdc1 1.36/25]

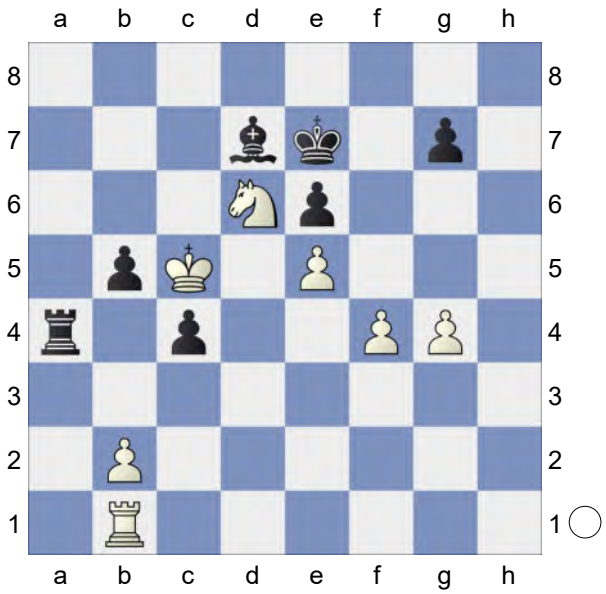
33...Rxa8 Endgame KRB-KRN **34.g4** 0.35/23
[34.Nxb5 Ra5 35.Kxc4 Bxb5+ *(35...Rxb5? 36.Rxd7+* Remove Defender *Kxd7 37.Kxb5+-)* 36.Kb4 Be2∓]
[34.h4± 1.10/25]

34...hxg4± 35.hxg4
[35.Nxb5? gxh3 36.Nd6 g5-+]

35...Ra2 1.04/28
[35...Rh8± 0.56/25]

36.Rb1±
[36.Nxb5 Ra5 *(36...Rxb2 37.Nc3=)* 37.Rxd7+ Kxd7=]

36...Ra4? 3.97/25
[36...c3± 0.87/25 is a better chance.]

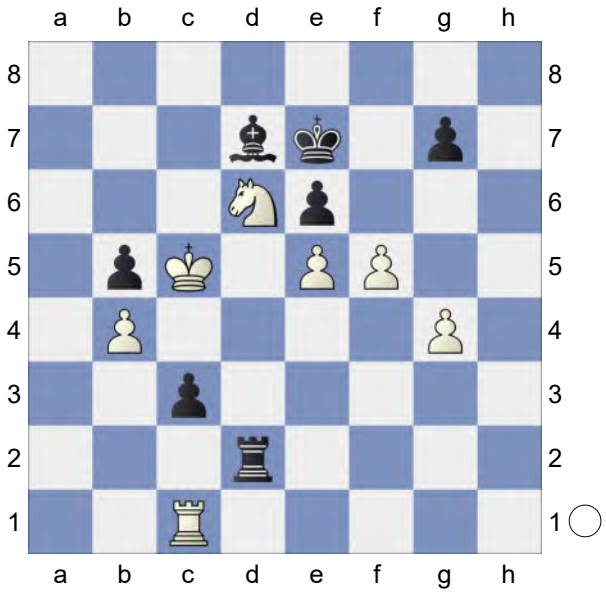


37.f5? 0.11/23
[37.Nxb5? Ra5 38.Kxc4 Rxb5-+ *(38...Bxb5+ 39.Kb4∓)*]
[37.Rf1!+- 3.97/25 f5! would now be deadly. c3 38.bxc3]

37...c3= 38.b4
[38.Nxb5? c2 39.f6+ Kf8-+ *(39...gxf6? 40.exf6+ Kxf6 41.Rf1+ Ke7 42.Na3-+)*]
[38.bxc3 Rxg4 39.Nxb5 Re4 40.f6+]

38...Ra2 39.Rc1
[39.Nxb5 c2 *(39...exf5 40.Nxc3 Rc2 41.Kd4=)* 40.Rc1 exf5∓]

39...Rd2? 2.83/25
[39...Re2= 0.05/24 and Black is okay. 40.f6+ gxf6 41.exf6+ Kxf6]



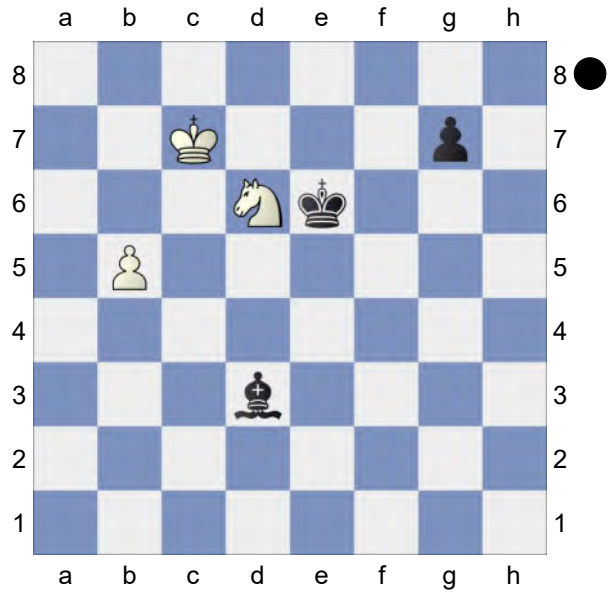
40.Rxc3? -0.01/22
[40.Nxb5? Rd5+ *(40...exf5 41.gxf5 Bxb5 42.Kxb5±)* 41.Kc4 Bxb5+-+ *(41...Rxb5? 42.f6+ gxf6 43.exf6+ Kxf6 44.Rxc3-+)*]
[40.f6+!+- 2.83/25 gxf6 41.exf6+ *(41.Nxb5? Rd5+ 42.Kc4 Bxb5+-+)* 41...Kf8 42.Ne4 *(42.Nxb5? Rd5+ 43.Kb6 Rxb5+-+)* 42...Rd5+ 43.Kb6]

40...Rd5+ The position is equal. **41.Kb6 Rxe5**
[41...exf5 simplifies 42.Nxf5+ Bxf5 43.gxf5 Rxe5 44.Rc5 Rxc5 45.Kxc5 Kf6]

42.Kc7 exf5 43.gxf5 Bxf5 44.Re3 Decoy **44...Ke6**
[44...Rxe3? perishes. 45.Nxf5+ Kf6 46.Nxe3+-]

45.Rxe5+ Kxe5 46.Nxb5 KB-KN

46...Bd3 (→ ...g5!) **47.Nd6 Ke6 48.b5**

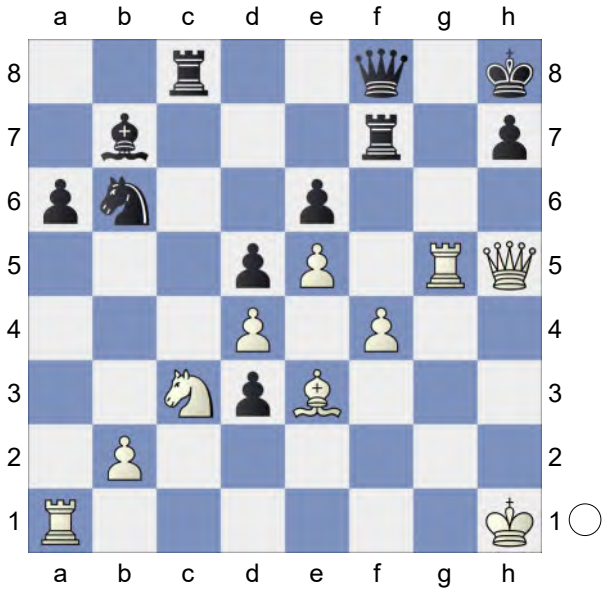


Bxb5! 49.Nxb5 KN-KP **49...Kd5 50.Nc3+ Kd4** (→ ...g6!) **51.Ne2+ Ke3** Black has compensation. **52.Ng3 Kf3 53.Nh5 g6 54.Nf6 g5 55.Kd6 g4** Weighted Error Value: White=0.47/ Black=0.48 **56.Nxg4**
½-½

51 **C11**
□ **Kasparov,Garry** **2812**
■ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2807**
Saint Louis Blitz 2017 (3.3) 17.08.2017
[Kitty Kat]

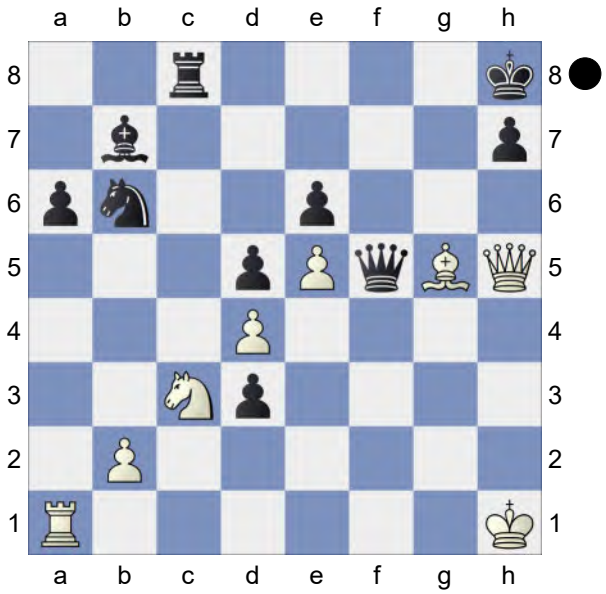
C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Be7 8.Qd2 a6 9.a3 b5** 0.59/17
[9...0-0= 0.19/17]
10.Bd3 0.16/17
[10.dxc5!± 0.59/17 Nxc5 11.Qf2]
10...Bb7N 0.69/19
[10...0-0= 0.16/17]
[10...c4 11.Be2 Nb6 12.0-0 Bd7 13.Bd1 g6 14.h3 Qc7 15.Bf2 h6 16.Ne2 a5 17.c3 0-0-0 18.Bh4 Bxh4 19.Nxh4 Kb7 20.Nf3 Ra8 21.Bc2 Qd8 22.g4 Qe7 23.Ng3 b4 24.axb4 axb4 25.Rxa8 1-0 Anand,V (2720)-Kamsky,G (2695) Sanghi Nagar (m/3) 61/343 1994 Rxa8 26.f5 gxf5 27.gxf5 Ra2 28.Qc1 bxc3 29.bxc3 Qa3 30.Bb1 Qxc1 31.Rxc1 Rb2 32.f6 Na4 33.Bh7 Na5 34.Bg6 Nb3 35.Re1 Be8 36.Nf5 fxg6 37.Nd6+ Kc7 38.Nxe8+ Kd7 39.Nd6 g5 40.Nf5 0-1 Buchicchio,G (2753)-Hantel,T (2753) Amsterdam VSB 1993 (3.1)]
[10...Qb6 11.Qf2 Bb7 *(11...b4 12.Na4 Qa5 13.Nxc5 bxa3+ 14.Ke2 Nxd4+ 15.Nxd4 Nxc5 16.Rxa3 Qb6 17.Nb3 Nxd3 18.cxd3 Qb7 19.Bc5 d4 20.Bxe7* Garcia Pantoja,R (2401)-Borges Matos,J (2472) La (open) 113/(100) 2011*)* 12.dxc5 Bxc5 13.Bxc5 Qxc5 14.Ne2 Rc8 15.Ned4 h6 16.0-0 0-0 17.c3 Kh8 18.Kh1 Qe7 19.Rae1 Nc5 20.Bb1 Nxd4 21.Nxd4 f5 22.exf6 Rxf6 23.Qh4 Rcf8 24.h3 Ne4 25.Bxe4 0-1 Neustroev,V (2283)-Asish,P (1903) Titled Tuesday intern op 14th Jan Early blitz 2025 (4)]
11.0-0± White is slightly better. **11...0-0 12.Kh1** 0.20/20
[12.Qf2± 0.69/19]
12...f5 0.72/20
[12...f6= 0.20/20]
13.Qf2± Rc8 14.Rg1 b4 0.86/19
[14...Qe8± 0.50/20 should be considered.]
15.axb4 Nxb4 16.g4 g6 1.14/20
[Better is 16...Nxd3± 0.53/19 17.cxd3 a5]
17.gxf5 Nxd3 18.cxd3 Rxf5 19.Ne2 Rf7 1.76/18
[19...Qe8± 0.82/17]
20.h4!+- h5 would now be deadly.
20...Kh8? 3.31/19

[20...Nf8± 0.85/18]
21.h5 gxh5? 3.95/19
[21...Qf8 2.27/16 22.hxg6 hxg6]
22.Qh2 Qf8 23.Qxh5 c4? 5.60/19
[23...Bc6 2.96/15 24.Ng3 *(24.Rxa6 c4±)* 24...cxd4 25.Nxd4 Bc5]
24.Ng5 Bxg5 25.Rxg5 cxd3 26.Nc3 -0.01/23
[26.Ng3!+- 2.73/20]
26...Nb6 0.37/22
[26...Nc5= -0.01/23]



27.f5 -0.11/22 **Rxf5= 28.Rxf5** -0.88/19
[28.Qh4!= -0.01/20]
28...Qxf5∓ 29.Bg5? -2.59/24
[White should try 29.Qxf5∓ -0.67/20 exf5 30.Rd1]

(Diagram)

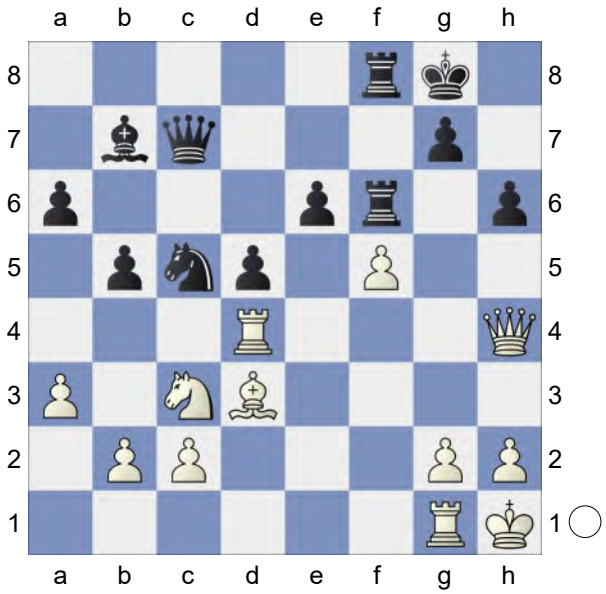


29...Rf8? 0.01/22
[29...Nd7!-+ -2.59/24 30.Qh4 Qf3+ 31.Kh2 Rf8]
30.Qh4? -1.91/23
[30.Qh6= 0.01/22 and White stays safe. Qf3+ 31.Kh2 Qf2+ 32.Kh1]
30...Qf3+ -1.25/23
[30...Nd7-+ -1.91/23 aiming for ... Nxe5!. 31.Bh6 Qf3+ 32.Kh2 Rf5 *(32...Qf2+ 33.Qxf2 Rxf2+ 34.Kh3-+)*]
31.Kg1? -3.49/23
[31.Kh2∓ -1.25/23 Qf2+ 32.Qxf2 Rxf2+ 33.Kg1 Rxb2 34.Rf1]
31...Nd7-+ 32.Kh2 Qf2+ 33.Qxf2 Rxf2+ 34.Kg3 Rxb2 35.Rf1? -4.58/19
[35.Rd1 -2.56/18 was called for.]
35...Kg7 36.Na4 -7.35/21
[⌓36.Rd1 -4.00/19 Kg6 37.Bf4]
36...Rc2 Black is clearly winning.
37.Bf6+ Kg6 38.Kf4 Nxf6 39.exf6 d2 40.f7 Weighted Error Value: White=0.93/ Black=0.62 **40...Rc1**
0-1

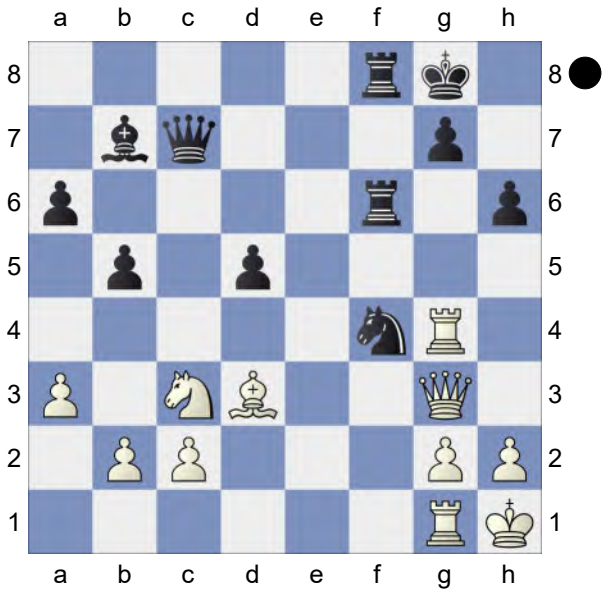
52 **C11**
□ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2810**
■ **Kramnik,Vladimir** **2788**
Corus Wijk aan Zee (9) 26.01.2010
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Be7 8.Qd2 0-0 9.Be2 a6 10.0-0 b5 11.Kh1** White has an edge. **11...Qc7 12.a3 Bb7 13.Rad1N**
[13.dxc5 Nxc5 14.Qe1 f6 15.Bxc5 Bxc5 16.Bd3 f5 17.Ne2 d4 18.b4 Bb6 19.a4 Qe7 20.axb5 axb5 21.Rb1 Ra2 22.Nc1 Ra4 23.Bxb5 Rxb4 24.Nd3 Rxb1 25.Qxb1 Rc8 26.Bc4 Na5 27.Ba2 Rc6 1-0 Caruana,F (2766)-So,W (2760) Titled Tuesday intern op 31st Jan Early blitz 2023 (11)]
13...Rac8 14.Qe1 cxd4 15.Nxd4 Nxd4 16.Bxd4 Bc5 17.Qh4 -0.75/18
[17.h3= -0.01/18]
17...Bxd4∓ 18.Rxd4 f6 Black continues to play with concentration. **19.Bd3** -1.34/20
[19.exf6∓ -0.39/19 Rxf6 20.Qe1]
19...h6 20.exf6 -1.48/21
[Better is 20.Qh3 -0.93/19 Nc5 *(20...fxe5 21.Qxe6+ Kh8 22.Rxd5+-; 20...Qb6 21.Rxd5 exd5 22.Qxd7=)* 21.exf6 Rxf6 22.Be2]
20...Rxf6 21.f5 -1.96/23
[21.Rg1∓ -1.17/20]
21...Rcf8-+ 22.Rg1 Nc5
[Not 22...exf5 23.Nxd5 Bxd5 24.Rxd5=]

(Diagram)



23.fxe6 Nxe6 24.Rg4 -2.91/18
[24.Nxd5 -1.79/23 Bxd5 25.Rxd5]
24...Nf4 25.Qg3 -3.24/17
[25.Ne2 -2.28/21 is a better defense. Nxe2 26.Bxe2]



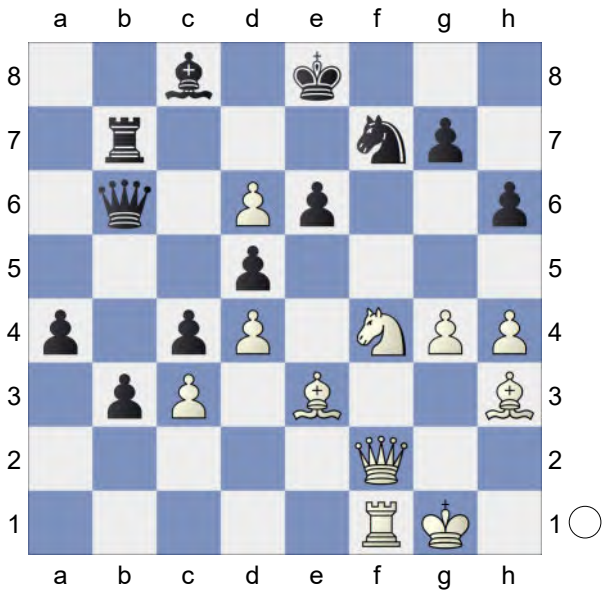
25...Qe7! 26.Rxf4 -4.49/18
[⌓26.h3 -2.83/22 d4 27.Nd1]
26...Rxf4 Black is clearly winning. **27.Ne2 Rf1 28.Nd4 Rxg1+ 29.Kxg1 Re8 30.h4 Qe1+ 31.Kh2 Qxg3+ 32.Kxg3** Endgame KRB-KBN **32...Kf7 33.Kf2 Kf6 34.g3 Bc8 35.c3 Bg4**

36.Bc2 g5 37.hxg5+ hxg5 38.Bb3 Ke5 39.Bc2 Rf8+ 40.Kg2 Bd7 41.Nf3+ Kf6 aiming for ...Bf5. **42.Bb3 g4 43.Nd4 Ke5 44.Bc2 a5 45.Bd1** Weighted Error Value: White=0.62/ Black=0.10 (very precise) **45...Ke4 0-1**

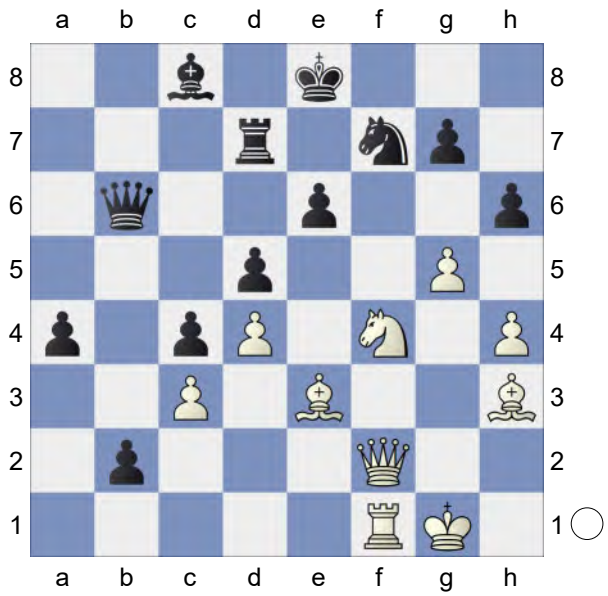
53 **C11**
□ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2801**
■ **Berg,E.** **2594**
BNbank Blitz KO (2.2) 28.11.2009
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 Fedorov,Alexei: 'Fedorov, Alex: 'Inf 100/(188)" **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Rb8 8.a3N**
[8.Qd2 Qa5
A) 9.a3 b5 10.Ra2 c4 *(10...Be7 11.Be2 0-0 12.0-0* Kosintseva,T (2479)-Matveeva,S (2454) Krasnoturinsk 100/(188) 2006*)* 11.f5 Be7 12.fxe6 fxe6 13.g3 0-0 14.Bg2 Nb6 15.0-0 Na4 16.Ne2 Qxd2 17.Bxd2 Nb6 18.Bh3 Na8 19.Bg4 Nc7 20.h4 a5 21.c3 Bd7 22.Nf4 Nd8 23.Raa1 Nf7 1-0 Bologan,V (2645)-Krasenkow,M (2635) Espana 98/231 2006;
B) 9.Be2 b5 10.0-0 b4 11.Nd1 Ba6 12.c3 Bxe2 13.Qxe2 bxc3 14.bxc3 Qb5 15.Qxb5 Rxb5 16.Nf2 c4 17.Rfb1 Rb6 18.a4 Be7 19.Rb5 0-0 20.Rab1 Rfb8 21.Nd2 a6 22.Rxb6 Rxb6 23.Nd1 Rxb1 0-1 Bian,E (2091)-Volkov,S (2397) Titled Tuesday intern op 21st Jan Late blitz 2025 (1);
C) 9.dxc5 Bxc5 10.Bxc5 Nxc5 11.Nb5 Qxd2+ 12.Kxd2 f6 13.Re1 fxe5 14.fxe5 Bd7 15.Bd3 Ke7 16.Nbd4 Nxd4 17.Nxd4 Rbf8 18.Rhf1 Rxf1 19.Rxf1 Be8 20.Rf3 h6 21.b4 Nd7 22.Re3 Rf8 ½-½ Vehi Bach,V (2365)-Mellado Trivino,J (2455) Terres Catalanes 1996 (3)]
8...c4 1.09/22
[8...cxd4!= 0.23/19 remains equal. 9.Nxd4 a6]
9.g4 0.73/20
[⌓9.h4 1.09/22]
9...b5± White is better. **10.Ne2 Nb6** 1.26/19
[10...b4± 0.65/20]
11.h4 Na4 12.Ra2 0.69/20
[12.Qc1± 1.22/19]
12...Qa5+ 1.52/22
[Better is 12...h5± 0.69/20]
13.c3 Nb6 2.19/20
[13...h5± 1.24/19]
14.Ra1 Na4 15.Rb1 1.16/23
[15.Qc2+- 2.22/18]
15...Qb6 1.93/19
[15...b4± 1.16/23]
16.Bh3 1.45/20
[16.Qc2+- 1.93/19]
16...a5 2.61/19
[16...h5± 1.45/20 17.gxh5 f5 18.exf6 gxf6]
17.0-0 1.50/20
[White should try 17.f5+- 2.61/19]
17...Nxb2 18.Rxb2 Bxa3 19.Rb1 b4 20.f5 b3 21.fxe6 fxe6 1.79/18
[21...Bxe6± 1.37/20 22.Ng5 0-0]
22.Ng5? 0.18/19
[22.g5!+- 1.79/18]
22...h6 1.49/20
[22...Nd8= 0.18/19]
23.Nf7! Rf8 2.98/21
[23...0-0± 0.83/21]
24.Nd6+? 1.19/23
[24.Bc1+- 2.98/21]

24...Bxd6 25.exd6 Rxf1+ 2.21/20
[25...Qd8± 1.15/20 was called for.]
26.Qxf1+-
[26.Bxf1 a4 27.g5 a3∓]
26...a4 2.75/19
[26...Qd8± 1.34/19]
27.Nf4 1.30/20
[27.g5+- 2.75/19]
27...Ne5? 4.45/21
[27...Qd8± 1.30/20]
28.Qf2 2.46/19
[28.dxe5 Qxe3+ 29.Kh2 Rb7∓ *(29...Qxe5? 30.g5-+; 29...Qxc3? 30.g5-+)*]
[⌓28.Bc1 4.45/21]
28...Nf7 29.Rf1 Nxd5! is the strong threat. **29...Rb7** 3.35/21
[⌓29...Nxd6 2.15/21 30.Ng6 Kd7]



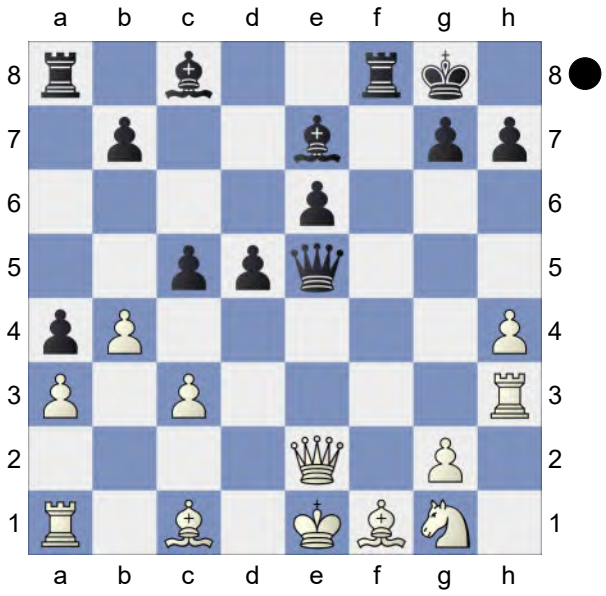
30.g5? 0.45/20
[30.d7+!+- 3.35/21 Kxd7 *(30...Bxd7? 31.Nxd5* Discovered Attack *Qd6 32.Qxf7++-)* 31.Nxd5 Discovered Attack exd5 32.Qxf7+ Kc6 33.Qf8 *(33.Qe8+ Bd7=)*]
30...b2? 6.74/18
[30...Qxd6± 0.45/20 31.g6 Nh8]
31.d7+ Rxd7



32.Nxd5! Deflection **32...Rxd5**
[32...Qd6 33.gxh6]
33.Qxf7+ Kd8 34.Qxg7 b1Q 35.gxh6
[35.Rxb1 Qxb1+ 36.Kh2 Qb8+ 37.Kh1 Qg3 38.Qf6+ Ke8 39.Qg6+ Ke7 40.Qf6+ Ke8 41.Qh8+ Kd7 42.Bxe6+ Kxe6=]
35...Qxf1+ 36.Bxf1 Intending h7! and mate. **36...Rd7 37.Qg8+ Kc7 38.h7**
[38.Bxc4 Qb1+ 39.Kh2 Qc2+ 40.Qg2 *(40.Kg3? Qxc3 41.Kf3 Bb7+ 42.d5 exd5-+)* 40...Qxg2+ 41.Kxg2 Bb7+ 42.Kg3 Be4±]
38...a3 39.h8Q
[Stronger than 39.h8N Qb1 40.Bf4+ *(40.Qxe6?* too greedy. *Rg7+-+)* 40...Kb7-+]
39...Bb7 40.Bf4+ Kc6 41.Qxe6+ Kb5 Weighted Error Value: White=0.59/ Black=1.42 **42.Qxd7+**
1-0

54 **C11**
□ **Anand,Viswanathan** **2797**
■ **Nakamura,Hikaru** **2776**
Zuerich Chess Challenge 4th_22448 (4)
[Krasenkow,Michal, MH]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4** Sulskis,Sarunas **1...e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.f4**
[6.c3 cxd4 7.cxd4 f6 Sulskis,Sarunas: '- 109/247']
6...Nc6 7.c3 Qb6 8.Nf3 f6 9.a3
[9.g3! cxd4 10.cxd4 Bb4+ 11.Bd2 fxe5 12.fxe5 0-0 13.Bxb4 *(13.Bg2 Rxf3)* 13...Qxb4+ 14.Kf2 Ndxe5 15.dxe5 , and White keeps a strong attack without material deficit. Rxf3+ 16.Kxf3 Qe4+ 17.Kf2 - in both bracketed lines White's knight is stronger than Black's bishop Qxh1]
9...Be7 10.h4 0-0 11.Rh3 a5
[11...Na5 0.43/20 11...a5 -0.24 12.b4 cxb4 13.axb4 Nc4 Sulskis,Sarunas 14.Ng3 a5 1.00/20 *(Better is 14...fxe5± 0.43/20 15.fxe5 Ndxe5 16.dxe5 Nxe5)* 15.Bd3± f5 1.69/21 *(15...h6± 1.03/19)* 16.Ng5+- Rd8 2.56/20 *(16...Bxg5 1.67/19* might work better. *17.hxg5 Rd8)* 17.Qh5!+- Bxg5! is a typical and quite appropriate plan in this kind of positions. Instead, Black starts an unusual and slightly dubious plan. 18.Qxg5?! Nh5 would kill now. Rf8 19.Nh5 Rf7? 3.94/23 *(19...g6* 1.95/20 *20.Ng3 Rf7)* 20.Rg3!]
12.b3 -0.40/20
[12.h5= 0.00/22]
12...Qc7∓ 13.Neg1
[13.h5 Sulskis,Sarunas b6 0.00/21 *(13...b5!∓* -0.51/20) △14.g4? -1.09/21 *(14.Be3=* 0.00/21 remains equal.)
14...cxd4 -0.46/24 *(Black should try 14...Ba6!∓* -1.09/21 *)* 15.cxd4∓ fxe5 16.fxe5 Rxf3 17.Rxf3 Bh4+ 18.Kd2 Bg5+!± 19.Ke1 Bh4+]
13...a4 14.b4 The whole system was examined in CBM 138, annotations to Nakamura - Nielsen. **14...fxe5 15.fxe5** Sulskis,Sarunas: 'N!?' **15...Ndxe5 16.dxe5N Nxe5 17.Nxe5**
[17.Bg5 Sulskis,Sarunas Bd6]
[17.Ra2 -1.32/20 17.Nxe5 0.00 Black rejected Nf7 -0.03/19 *(17...Nxf3+∓* -1.32/20 *18.Nxf3 cxb4 19.axb4 Qxc3+ 20.Bd2 Qf6 21.Rxa4 Rxa4 22.Qxa4 e5)*]
17...Qxe5+ 18.Qe2!? -0.46/21
[18.Re3? -4.45/20 18.Ne2 0.00 Bxh4+ was possible but even then the initiative belongs to White: Black has a weak c6-pawn and kingside and no objects of counterplay. 19.Kd2 Sulskis,Sarunas Rf2+ 20.Re2 Bg5+ 21.Kc2 Qf5+ 22.Kb2± Rxf1 Sulskis,Sarunas]
[18.Ne2= 0.00/24 might be stronger.]



18...Bxh4+! 0.55/23 Sulskis,Sarunas: '?'
19.Kd1!±

[19.Rxh4?? -2.42/23 19.Kd1 0.30 Qxc3+± 20.Kd1 Qxa1]

19...Qf6 2.47/21 This move loses the game for Black.

[19...Qxe2+ 1.14/25 19...Bf6 0.44 20.Bxe2! is satisfactory for Black Bf2 1.61/25 *(20...Bf6±* 1.14/21 was worth a try.) 21.Be3!+- *(21.Rh1* 0.67/24 21.Be3 1.46 *e5)* 21...e5 Sulskis,Sarunas 22.Bxf2! Rxf2 23.Rg3]

[19...Bf6!± 0.47/22]

20.Nf3!+-

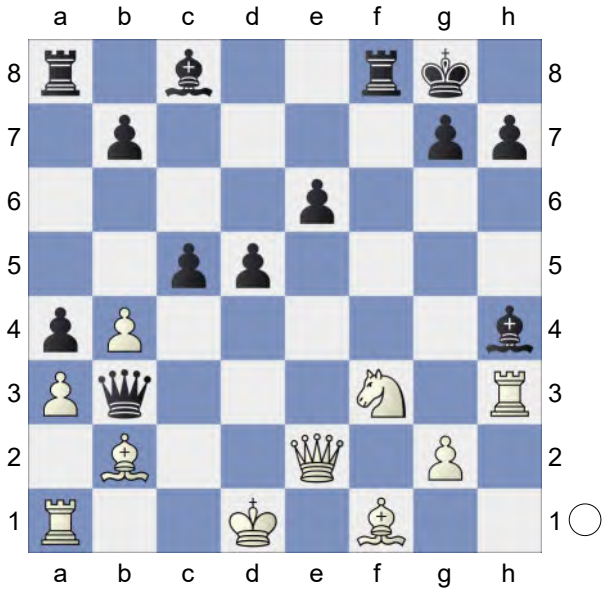
[20.Rf3 Qe7±]

20...Qxc3

[20...g5 21.Nxh4! Qxf1+ 22.Qxf1± Rxf1+ 23.Ke2→ Rxc1 24.Rxc1 gxh4 25.Rxh4]

[20...e5 21.Rxh4± e4 22.Rf4 Qxc3 23.Qa2 1.96/19 *(⌓23.Qe3!* 3.54/23 *Qxe3 24.Rxf8+ Kxf8 25.Bxe3)* 23...Be6+- 24.Bd2 Qb3+ 25.Qxb3 axb3 26.Ng5!]

21.Bb2 Sulskis,Sarunas: '±' **21...Qb3+**



22.Kc1! e5?! This is a loss of a crucial tempo. Preventing h4-h5 was not Black's top priority in this position.

[22...Bf6? 4.03/22 22...e5 2.01 23.Bxf6 Rxf6 24.Nd2]

23.Rxh4

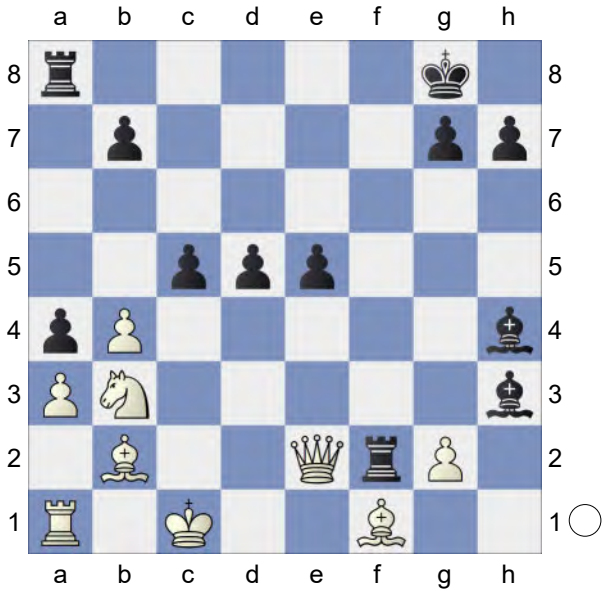
[△23.Nd2 Bxh3 24.Nxb3

A) 24...Bg4? 4.59/27 24...axb3 2.50

A1) 25.Qd3? -0.29/17 25.Qxg4 4.34 Bg5+! 2.40/19 *(25...axb3=* -0.29/17 *26.Qxd5+ Kh8 27.Bxe5 Rxf1+ 28.Kb2 Rf5 29.Qxb7 Rg8)*;

A2) 25.Qxg4 Rxf1+ 26.Kc2 etc. axb3+ Sulskis,Sarunas 27.Kxb3± xNd7 c4+ was probably insufficient for equality in view of 28.Ka2;

B) 24...Rf2!



B1) 25.Qd1 1.22/21 25.Qb5 2.92 Bg5+ 2.36/22 *(25...Bf5±* 1.22/21 *26.Qxd5+ Kh8)* 26.Kb1!+- Bf5+□

Sulskis,Sarunas: ' ⌓' Sulskis, Sarunas: '(✕b6)' covering the b6-square. Black's bishop doesn't protect his king anymore but that is a lesser evil. After 27.Bd3 e4 28.Bc2 Sulskis,Sarunas: '±!?' White is clearly better but what he has is far from a decisive

advantage. axb3 29.Qxd5+ was not pleasant either as White's knight was much more active than Black's, e.g. Kh8 30.Qxb3;

B2) 25.Qb5! Bg5+ 26.Kb1 Bf5+ 27.Bd3 axb3 28.Bxf5 Rxf5+- 29.bxc5]

[23.Qxe5?? -5.46/20 23.Rxh4 2.53 Bf6 24.Nd2 Bxh3!! 25.Nxb3 Bxe5]

23...Bf5 24.Qd1

[24.Bxe5± Sulskis,Sarunas cxb4 Sulskis,Sarunas. And now ...Rfc8+ would win. 25.Kd2]

[24.bxc5 Rac8 25.Rb4 *(25.Qxe5? Qc2#; 25.Nxe5 Rxc5+ 26.Nc4 Bg6-+; 25.Qf2? d4-+)* 25...Rxc5+ 26.Kd2 Rc2+ 27.Kd1 Rxb2+ 28.Rxb3 Rxe2 29.Rxb7 Re4±]

24...e4 An obvious mistake, after which Black's position becomes really grim.

25.Qxb3! Sulskis,Sarunas: ' ±!' **25...axb3**

26.Nd2 e3

[26...c4 27.Bd4 , preventing ♖b4-b7, was more stubborn.]

27.Nf3

[27.Nxb3 Strongly threatening Be2. Bg6 28.Be2 RRRf2! 29.Kd1 Rxg2 ...Rg1+ is the strong threat. 30.Rg4]

[27.Nxb3 Be4 28.Bb5 cxb4 29.axb4 Rxa1+ 30.Nxa1 Rc8+ 31.Kd1 Bxg2+-]

27...Rae8 3.51/22

[27...c4! 3.66/20 27...Rac8 2.46 28.Bc3 Rae8∞ ...e2 would now be deadly. 29.Be2]

[⌓27...Rac8 2.31/19]

28.Kd1

[RR28.bxc5! Threatens to win with Bb5. e2 29.Kd2! exf1Q 30.Rxf1 Be4]

[28.bxc5 e2 29.Kd2 exf1R 30.Rxf1 Be4±]

28...c4 29.Be2 Sulskis,Sarunas: '!'

29...Be4 30.Kc1

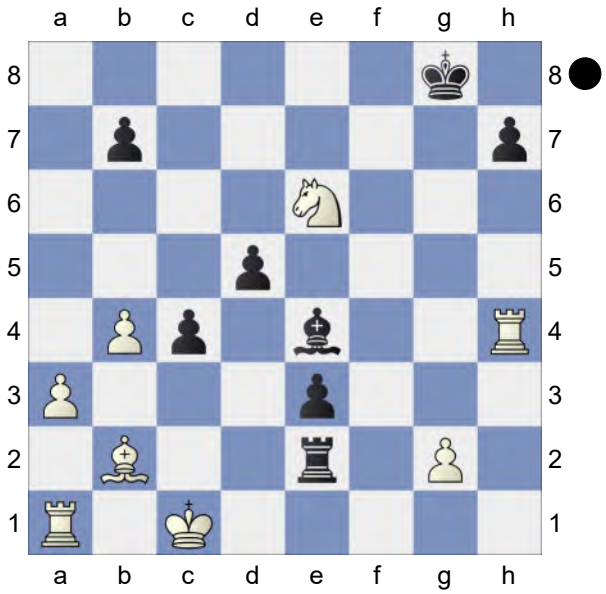
[30.Ke1+-]

30...Re6? 3.57/22

[30...Bd3 2.34/19 is a better defense. 31.Rg4 g6 32.Bxd3 cxd3]

31.Bc3

[31.Ng5?? -4.47/20 31.Bc3 3.42 Rf2! , and White should win. 32.Nxe6? -6.97/22 Sulskis,Sarunas *(32.Kd1 -3.96/19 Bc2+ 33.Ke1)* 32...Rxe2-+ 33.Bxg7 aiming for Rf4. b2+ 34.Kd1 *(34.Bxb2*



Re1#) 34...bxa1Q+? -0.05/23 *(34...Rd2+-+ -7.63/23 35.Ke1 d4* Promotion *)* 35.Bxa1= Rxg2]

31...Rg6 32.Rh2

[32.Rxe4?! dxe4 33.Nd4 *(33.Bxc4+ Kh8±; 33.Nh4 Rc6=)* 33...Rxg2 34.Bxc4+ Kh8±]

32...Bd3 Desperation.

[32...Rf4 33.Be5 Rfg4 34.Ne1 R4g5 35.Bd4 Bxg2 36.Bxe3 Be4 Hoping for ...c3! 37.Kb2]

33.Bxd3 cxd3 34.Kb2 Sulskis,Sarunas: '!' **34...d2 35.Kxb3** Sulskis,Sarunas: '+-'

[35.Rd1=]

[35.Bxd2 exd2 36.Rd1 Ra6 37.Rxd2 Rfa8! 38.Rh5 Rxa3 39.Rhxd5]

35...Rg3 36.Kb2 Sulskis,Sarunas: '!'

[36.Kc2]

36...g5 37.Kc2 Rc8

[37...g4 4.63/22 37...Rc8 2.95 Sulskis,Sarunas 38.Nd4 *(38.Be5 gxf3* Sulskis,Sarunas *39.Bxg3! f2 40.Rh4* Black must now prevent Rg4+. *Rf5 41.Rg4+ Kf7 42.Bxf2! Rxf2 43.Kd3)* 38...Rf2 39.Rd1 e2 40.Nxe2! Rxe2 41.Rxd2]

38.Kd3 g4 39.Be5 White is clearly winning. **39...Rc1**

[but not 39...gxf3?? 40.Bxg3! V.Anand Sulskis,Sarunas: 'RR!' Sulskis,Sarunas: ' Δ Be3' Rc1 Sulskis,Sarunas 41.Rh1 Rxh1 42.Rxh1 fxg2 43.Rg1 d4 44.Be5]

40.Rh1

[40.Kxe3? d1Q *(40...d1R? 41.Rxc1 Rxc1 42.Bxg3+-)* 41.Rxc1 Qxc1+-+]

[40.Nxd2 exd2+ 41.Kxd2 *(41.Bxg3 d1Q+ 42.Ke3 Rc3+ 43.Kf4 Qd4+* Deflection *44.Kf5 Qe4+ 45.Kg5 Qg6+ 46.Kh4 Qf6+* Deflection *47.Kh5 Qf5+ 48.Kh4 h6)* 41...Rxa1 Remove Defender 42.Bxa1 *(42.Bxg3 Rxa3 43.Be5 g3+-)* 42...Rxa3+-]

40...Rxg2 41.Nh4 Weighted Error Value: White=0.16 (very precise) / Black=0.36

[41.Nd4?? -2.57/27 41.Nh4 4.35 Sulskis,Sarunas d1Q+ 42.Rxd1 Rd2+!+- Sulskis,Sarunas: 'RR!']

[Don't do 41.Raxc1 dxc1B 42.Rxc1 gxf3 43.Kxe3 Re2+ 44.Kf4 *(44.Kxf3 Rxe5 45.Rc5 h5=; 44.Kd4 Rd2+ 45.Ke3 Re2+ 46.Kf4 h5+-)* 44...h5+-]

1-0

55 **C11**

□ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2796**

■ **Aronian,Levon** **2738**

ch-USA 2024 Saint Louis USA (2.1)

[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.dxc5 Nc6 7.Bd2N**

[7.Nf3 Bxc5 8.Bd3 f6 *(8...a6 9.Qe2 Qc7 10.Bd2 b5 11.a3 Rb8 12.Nd1 Nb6 13.b4 Be7 14.0-0 Nc4* Chess Informant ECO Chess Informant ECO C4 Survey 2000*)* 9.exf6 Nxf6 10.Qe2 0-0 11.Bd2 Bd7 12.0-0-0 Kh8 C 11/10-N,N 2000]

[7.a3 Bxc5 8.Qg4 g6 9.Nf3 a6 10.b4 Ba7 11.Bb2 b5 12.0-0-0 Bb7 13.Ne2 a5 14.c3 axb4 15.cxb4 Be3+ 16.Kb1 Qb6 17.Ned4 Bxd4 18.Nxd4 Nxd4 19.Rxd4 0-0 20.h4 Rxa3 21.Bxb5 Rb3 0-1 Kirschner,E-Meyers,L WT/II/165 corr ICCF 1975]

7...Nxc5 8.Nf3 Be7 9.Be3 0-0 10.a3 a6 11.Be2 b5 12.0-0 Bb7 13.Qe1 Ne4 14.Bd3 Nxc3 0.91/21

[14...Nc5± 0.39/19 15.Bxc5 Bxc5+ 16.Kh1 f6]

15.bxc3± f5 16.exf6 Bxf6? 2.46/19

[16...Rxf6± 0.81/19 was called for. 17.Qg3 Bd6]

17.Bc5+- Re8 18.Qg3 And now Ng5 would win. **18...Qc7 19.Kh1** 1.00/20

[19.Ng5!+- 1.75/23 Bxg5 20.Qxg5]

19...g6 1.77/20

[19...Ne7± 1.00/20 20.Bd4 Bxd4 21.Nxd4 *(21.cxd4 Nf5±)* 21...Nf5 22.Nxf5 *(22.Bxf5 exf5 23.Rfe1 Re4=)* 22...exf5]

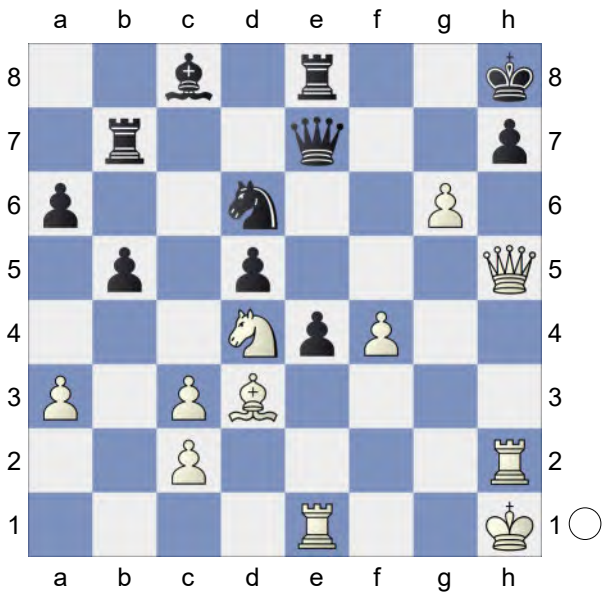
20.Bd4 0.96/20

[20.Ng5+- 1.77/20]

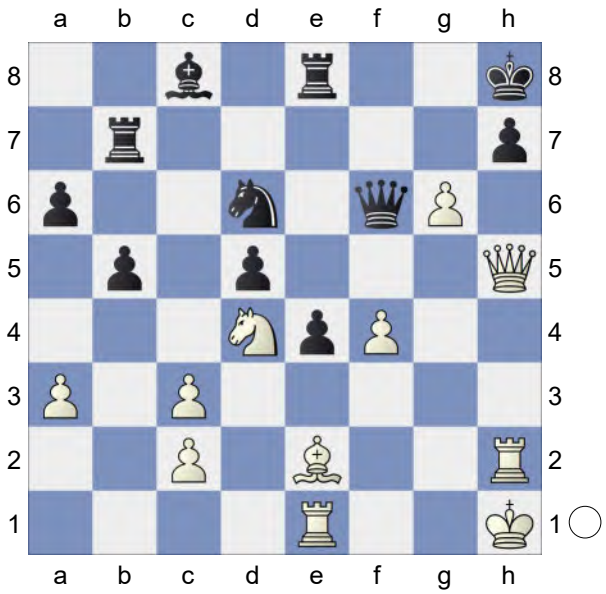
20...Rf8 21.h4 Qg7 22.Rae1 Rae8

23.Bxf6 Rxf6 24.Nd4 Kh8 1.29/20
[Black should try 24...e5 0.84/21]
25.Rf3± Qe7 2.04/23
[25...Qf7± 1.41/22 was worth a try. 26.Qg5 Nxd4 27.cxd4 Rf8]
26.Qg5 aiming for h5. **26...Nd8 27.h5** White is much more active. **27...Nf7**
28.Qh4 gxh5 3.37/21
[28...Nd6 1.76/21 was necessary.]
29.g4+-
[29.Qxh5? Rh6 *(29...Qxa3 30.Qxh7#)* 30.Rh3 Rxh5-+ *(30...Qxa3? 31.Qxf7 Rxh3+ 32.gxh3+-)*]
29...e5 30.g5
[30.gxh5 e4 31.Rf2 Nh6-+]
[30.Qxh5? Rh6 *(30...Qxa3 31.Qxh7#)* 31.Rxe5 Rxh5+-+]
30...Rb6
[30...Rh6? 31.Nf5 Qd8 32.gxh6+- *(32.Nxh6 Nxh6 33.fxe5 d4+-)*]
31.Qxh5 e4 32.Rh3 Nd6? 4.61/21
[32...Nxg5 2.73/19 33.Qxg5 Qxg5 34.fxg5 Rg6]
33.g6 Bc8 Inhibits Ne6. **34.Rh2** 1.24/19
[34.Qxh7+ Qxh7 35.Rxh7+ Kg8=]
[34.f5 Rb7±]
[34.Ne6!+- 5.45/22 is the precise move to win. White wants to mate with Qe5+. Bxe6 35.Qe5+ *(35.Qxh7+? Qxh7 36.Rxh7+ Kg8-+)* 35...Kg8 36.gxh7+ *(36.Rxh7 Qxh7+ 37.gxh7+ Kxh7+-)* 36...Kf7 37.Qh5+ *(37.h8R Rxh8 38.Rxh8 Bf5+-)* 37...Kf6 38.h8Q+ *(38.h8R Rxh8 39.Qxh8+ Qg7+-)* 38...Rxh8 39.Qxh8+ Qg7+- 40.Rh6+ Kf7 41.Rh7 Pin *(41.Qxg7+ Kxg7 42.Rxe6 Nc8+-)*]
34...Rb7±

(Diagram)



35.Be2!
[35.f5 Rf8 *(35...Qf6 36.Be2±)* 36.Be2 Nxf5∓]
35...Qf6



36.Rg1 0.00/24
[36.Qxd5 Rg7∓ 37.Qg5 Rxg6 38.Qxf6+ Rxf6-+]
[36.Bg4!± 0.90/22]
36...Rg7!= The position is equal. **37.Qg5** Some like it hot
[37.Qxd5 e3 38.Bf3 Bb7∓]
37...Rf8 38.Qe5
[38.Qxd5 e3 39.Bf3 Qxf4]

38...Qxe5 39.fxe5 Nf5 40.Rg5 Ne7 41.Rxh7+ Rxh7+ 42.gxh7 Kxh7 43.e6 Rf6 44.Bh5 Rh6
[44...Bxe6 45.Re5 Rh6 *(45...Rf1+? 46.Kg2+-)* 46.Nxe6]
[44...Kh6!? 45.Re5□ Kg7=]
45.Kg1 Bxe6 46.Re5 Ng6 47.Rxe6 Rxh5 48.Rxa6 Endgame. KRN-KRN **48...Rh3 49.Nxb5 Nf4 50.Ra7+ Kg6 51.Re7 Rh8 52.Nc7 Kf6 53.Nxd5+** Remove Defender **53...Nxd5 54.Rxe4** KRN-KR **54...Kf5**
[54...Nxc3 55.Rc4∓]
55.Rd4 Nxc3 56.Kf2 Dodges Ne2 **56...Ke5 57.Rd7 Ne4+ 58.Ke2 Rh2+ 59.Kd1 Rh1+ 60.Ke2 Nc3+ 61.Kf2 Rh2+ 62.Ke3 Rh3+**
[62...Rxc2? 63.Re7+ *(63.Kd3 Rc1∓)* 63...Kd6 64.Ra7-+]
63.Kd2 Ne4+ 64.Kc1 Rxa3 65.Kb2
[65.Re7+ Kd5 66.Kd1 *(66.Rd7+ Nd6∓)* 66...Rf3∓]
65...Ra8
[65...Rc3!?]
66.Rd3
[66.Re7+ Kd4 67.Rd7+ Kc4 68.Rc7+ Nc5∓]
66...Nd6
[66...Rb8+? 67.Kc1-+]
67.Kb1
[67.Re3+ Kd4 68.Rd3+ Kc5∓ *(68...Ke5 69.c4=)*]
67...Nc4 68.Rd7 Rb8+ 69.Kc1 Ke4 70.Rh7 Rg8 71.Rd7
[71.Rh4+ Kd5 72.c3 *(72.Rh5+ Kc6∓)* 72...Rg2∓]
71...Ke3 72.Re7+ Kd4 (→ ...Rg1+) **73.Rd7+ Kc3 74.Rd3+ Kb4 75.Rb3+ Kc5 76.Rd3 Ra8 77.Kb1** Prevents Ra1+ **77...Ra3**
[77...Rb8+? 78.Kc1-+]
78.Rxa3 Nxa3+ 79.Ka1 Nxc2+ Black defended with fortune. Weighted Error Value: White=0.21 (precise) / Black=0.28 (precise)
½-½

56 **C11**
□ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2794**
■ **Anand,Viswanathan** **2762**
Candidates Tournament (10) 23.03.2016
[Marin,Mihail, MH]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.d4 e6 2.e4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 cxd4**
[The aforementioned game went 7...Qb6]
[7...b5 8.a3 cxd4 9.Nxd4 Nxd4 10.cxd4 b4 11.axb4 Bxb4+ 12.Bd2 Qb6 13.Nf3 a5 14.Bd3 Ba6 15.Bxa6 Rxa6 16.0-0 0-0 17.Ra4 Bxd2 18.Qxd2 Rb8 19.Rfa1 French-6.c3 ♘c6 7.f4 Survey 2020]
8.cxd4 f5
[8...f6 9.Nf3 Bb4+ 10.Bd2 Bxd2+ 11.Qxd2 0-0 12.h4 Nb6 13.b3 Bd7 14.g3 Nc8 15.Bh3 N8e7 16.0-0 h6 17.Rae1 f5 Seryshev,V (2599)-Semi Slav Cxd5 (2467) 61/82 Tilburg 1994]
9.Nf3 Be7N Almost three decades have passed since Kasparov surprised Karpov by introducing the English Opening as a main weapon in the 1987 Seville match, but the theoretical discussion still seems far from reaching an end. **10.Nc3**
[10.h3 Nb6
A) 11.g4 0.07/20 11.Kf2 0.73 Bh4+ 12.Nxh4 -0.33/22 *(12.Kd2=* 0.29/24 *)* 12...Qxh4+∓ 13.Kd2 exposes the bishop to Qf2 14.b3 -0.90/20 Wards off Nc4+ *(14.Qb3!∓* -0.42/23 should be considered.*)* 14...Nxd4∓ 15.Kc3 -1.66/22 *(15.Bb2∓* -1.02/22

keeps fighting. *Nf3+ 16.Kc2)* 15...Qf3+ -0.63/20 *(15...Nf3!-+* -1.66/22 Strongly threatening ...d4+! *16.Bd2 0-0)* 16.Kb2!∓ Qxh1 17.Nxd4 Qh2+ 18.Kb1 0-0 19.a4 a5 20.Ra2 Qg3 21.Rg2 Qc3 22.gxf5 exf5 23.Bb2 Qc7 24.e6 Rf6 25.Nxf5 Rg6 26.Be5 Qd8 27.Nxg7 d4 28.f5 Rxg2 29.Bxg2 Qg5 30.Qh5 Qxh5 31.Nxh5 Ra6 32.Bxd4 3 Chapter-Games Chapter 82 Game;

B) 11.Kf2 0-0 12.g4↑ Bd7 has a hidden drawback: 13.Ng3 Rc8 14.Rh2 a5 15.Kg1]

[10.g3 with a clear superiority of the bishop over the knight. Black's extra pawn does not really count while White's initiative in the centre and on the kingside is not easy to neutralise. The pressure along the e-file set up by Nb6 is partly illusory: 11.Nc3 Bd7 12.Bd3 Rc8 13.0-0 0-0 14.h3 Be8 15.g4 0.00/19 Against Bh5 *(15.Kh1±* 0.40/21 is superior. *)*]

[10.h4 h5 1.08/21 *(⌓10...0-0* 0.71/24 *)* 11.Be3 Nb6 White will soon set up pressure along the b-file while the permanent threat of d4-d5 restricts Black's regrouping possibilities. Once again the extra pawn is not too relevant and White has chances for a one-sided squeeze. Keeping the control of the d5-square for if 12.b3 Repels Nc4 Bd7 retrieves the pawn keeping the bishop pair and the mobile centre. The most natural move, which fails to stabilise the centre, though. If 13.Kf2 Rc8 14.a3 a5! White gets a threatening position since 15.Ng3? 0.28/25 loses material: *(15.Nc3±* 0.91/23 *)* 15...g6 16.Ng5 Na7]

[10.Be3 only apparently gains a tempo because the queen is exposed on e4: Nb6 Targeting b7 and delaying the c8-bishop's development. 11.b3 Against Nc4 Bd7! 12.Nc1 a5 with a considerable advance in development and strong initiative for White. 13.Nd3 a4± is simply bad for Black. Deviating from 14.Be2 axb3 15.axb3 Nb4 16.Kf2± Aronian,L (2765)-Anand,V (2816) Saint Louis 2015 (½-½, 31); and depriving Anand of the possibility of showing his improvement. In principle, ♗c1-g5 remains a thematic threat, but the move order chosen by Caruana is more subtle. He not only keeps an eye on the e4-square, preparing the dreamed of e2-e4, but also prevents the natural and most desirable developing move for Black, namely ... ♗f5.]

10...Nb6

[10...0-0 11.Bd3 Three pawns for a bishop may well ensure a draw. Nb6 fails to consolidate the knight after 12.a3 a5 13.b3 0.20/26 , when the e5-bishop is an unchallenged monster on the dark squares. The optically safer *(13.0-0±* 0.64/25 *)* 13...Bd7= does not spare Black problems: 14.0-0 Qe8 0.71/22 *(14...a4=* 0.27/20 *)* 15.Bb2 0.12/23 *(15.Rb1±* 0.71/22 *)* 15...a4= 16.b4 White's compensation for the pawn is beyond doubt. Wards off Na5 Na7]

11.Bd3 White is slightly better. **11...Bd7** Anand surely knew what he was doing since he had played this before. **12.h3N**

[12.Rg1 0-0 13.g4 fxg4 but things may be not entirely clear due to Black's numerous pawns. 14.Rxg4]

[12.0-0 0-0 13.a3 Rc8 For instance

if 14.Be3 Na5!?]

12...0-0 Anand decides to prevent ♗g5, but the weakness of the h6-pawn will soon prove decisive. However, it is not easy to find a convenient way of completing Black's development. **13.g4 Be8 14.Ne2!?** Very logical play by Caruana who before undertaking anything concrete completes his development harmoniously. The last move deserves some special attention, though, since the rook may seem to belong to either b1 or e1. Caruana's idea was to force Black to reveal his cards in view of the positional threat d4-d5. **14...Bg6** Aiming to consolidate in the centre while also completing the development. **15.a3** Repels Nb4

[15.Kf2 -0.29/23 15.a3 0.29 Nb4 0.08/21 *(⌓15...Qe8* -0.29/23) 16.Bb1= fxg4 17.hxg4 Black must now prevent Bxg6. Bxb1 0.65/20 *(17...Qe8!=* 0.13/22) 18.Rxb1± Nxa2+- 2.19/24 *(18...Qe8!=* 0.25/19 and Black is okay.*)* 19.Qd3 g6+- 20.Bd2 allows Nc4]

15...Qe8?! 0.78/22 Losing ground in the centre.

[15...Rc8± 0.34/25 might be stronger.]

16.Kf2 -0.31/19

[16.Ng3± 0.78/22]

16...a5 0.74/20 The bishop has landed on a joyless position and the knights are far from optimally placed, too. We can see one more benefit of having played ♖ad1: the exchange on e5 loses a piece to dxe5.

[16...fxg4∓ -0.31/19 stays ahead. 17.hxg4 Be4]

17.b3! -0.58/24 A strong queen switch to the kingside.

[17.Ng3!± 0.74/20]

17...a4?! 0.00/24 Removing the pressure on the central knight frees the bishop from its defensive task making it available for an elegant combination. But at the same time Black has no constructive moves...

[17...fxg4!∓ -0.58/24 18.hxg4 Be4]

18.b4!= By far not the only good move and curiously not among the engines' favourites.

[18.Ng3 feels hotter. axb3 19.gxf5 Nc4 20.Qxb3 Bh5 21.Nxh5 Qxh5 22.Bb1]

18...Na7 19.Ng3 Nb5 A despairing defence, returning the extra piece in order to exchange queens. **20.gxf5 Bxf5 21.Nxf5 exf5 22.Bb2±** White has retrieved the sacrificed pawn and even though the position has calmed down, Black is under serious pressure on both wings. Prevents Nc3.

[22.Bd2!? -0.85/22 22.Bb2 0.00 Nc7? 0.75/22 *(22...Nc4∓* -0.85/22 *23.h4 Qf7)* 23.h4 0.12/21 *(23.Qf1±* 0.75/22) 23...Nc4 24.h5 Nb2 25.Qe2 Nxd3+ 26.Qxd3]

22...Nc7 The adventure initiated by this move will only speed up Black's demise.

23.Rc1 -0.50/22

[Better is 23.h4= 0.21/20]

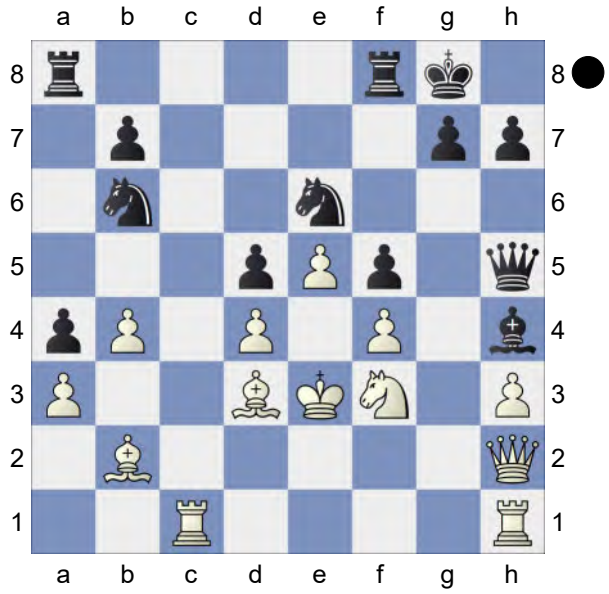
23...Ne6∓ 24.Ke3 Qh5 25.Qg1 -1.13/23

[25.Ng5 -1.21/21 25.Qe2 -0.55 Qxd1 26.Rhxd1? -2.87/25 White would soon get a lot of pawns for the knight, with every chance to win. *(26.Rcxd1∓* -1.15/21 *Bxg5 27.fxg5)* 26...Bxg5? -0.58/21 *(26...Nxg5-+* -2.87/25 *27.fxg5 Bxg5+ 28.Ke2 Bxc1 29.Rxc1 Rac8)* 27.fxg5∓ Nxg5 28.h4 Ne6 *(28...Ne4!?)*]

[25.Qe2∓ -0.45/24]

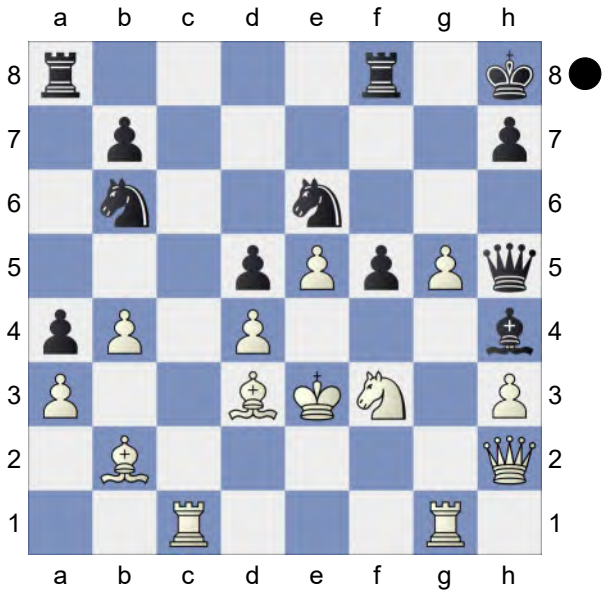
25...Bh4 Sacrificig the exchange for insufficient compensation. aiming for ...

Qh6. **26.Qh2**
[26.Be2? -2.50/20 26.Rc5 -0.63 Qh6 27.Qh2 Nxf4! 28.Qxf4 Bf2+!]

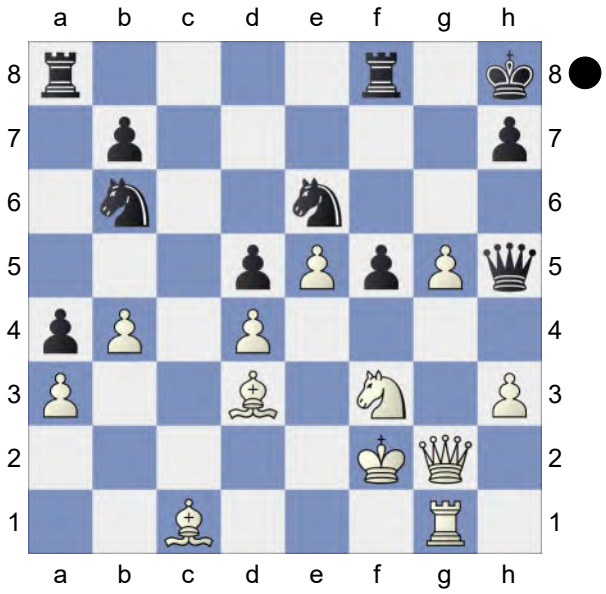


26...Kh8 -0.40/22
[26...g5!∓ -1.09/21 27.Rcg1 Kh8 28.Nxh4 gxf4+ *(28...Qxh4? 29.Kd2-+)* 29.Kd2 Qxh4]
27.Rhg1 -1.50/22
[White should try 27.Be2∓ -0.40/22]
27...g5∓ 28.fxg5 -1.92/22
[28.Nxh4 Nf3 would now be deadly. gxf4+ 29.Kd2 is also reasonable, maintaining the initiative with approximately equal material, but the main continuation, threatening to reinforce the threat ♘f6+ with e4-e5, is stronger. If Qxh4 30.Kc2 f3 -0.93/20 *(⌓30...Rac8+ -1.39/23 31.Kb1 f3 32.Rxc8 Rxc8)* 31.Kb1∓ Nf4 32.Bb5 Rg8 0.00/20 *(32...Ng2∓ -1.12/22 33.Rc3 Qe4+ 34.Bd3 Qh4)*]
[28.Nxh4∓ -1.36/21 gxf4+ *(28...Qxh4 29.fxg5 Nc4+ 30.Bxc4∓)* 29.Kd2 Qxh4 30.Kc2]

(Diagram)



28...Bg3! Decoy **29.Qg2**
[29.Rxg3?? -6.16/20 29.Qg2 -1.09 f4+ 30.Kf2 fxg3+ with a winning attack in which all White's pieces take an active part. 31.Qxg3 Nxg5]
[29.Rxg3? perishes. f4+ 30.Ke2 fxg3 31.Qxg3 Nf4+ 32.Kf1 Nxd3-+]
29...Bf4+ 30.Kf2 Bxc1 31.Bxc1



Rac8! 32.Bd2 -3.75/21 Planning to defend the f6-pawn with ♖f1. Prevents Rc3.
[32.g6 Rg8 33.Bg5 Bf6+ is the strong threat. Rxg6 also looks

convincing. White is a pawn up and his stable centralised knight is more impressive than the bishop. 34.Bf6+? -4.25/21 White threatened to continue his attack with simple moves: *(34.h4∓ -1.41/20)* 34...Kg8-+ And now ...Nf4! would win. 35.Qf1 Nf4]

[⌓32.g6 -1.78/19 Rg8 33.Bg5 Rxg6 34.h4]

32...Nc4-+ **33.Bc1** After the forced exchange of the rooks White will soon win at least one pawn, with an elementary win. Freeing the h7-square for if **33...Nxd4** Decoy. A dynamic duo of knights. **34.g6?** -4.30/23 mates on the next move. But

[34.e6 -2.62/20 Nxf3 *(34...Nxe6? 35.Re1-+)* 35.Qxf3 Qxf3+ 36.Kxf3 Ne5+ 37.Ke2]

34...hxg6! **35.Nxd4** would win the c4-pawn with a more or less winning position. The simple **35...Nxe5** Weighted Error Value: White=0.51/ Black=0.28 (precise) . Loss on time!?

[Much less strong is 35...Qh4+ 36.Ke2 Qxd4 37.Qf2 Qxf2+ *(37...Qxe5+? 38.Kf1-+)* 38.Kxf2]

1-0

57 **C11**

□ **Anand,Viswanathan** **2792**

■ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2863**

World-ch Carlsen-Anand +3-1=7 (8)

[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4** 4 **e6** 8 **2.d4** 5 **d5** 7 **3.Nc3** 4 **Nf6** 16 **4.e5** 9 **Nfd7** 39 **5.f4** 13 **c5** 14 **6.Nf3** 6 **Nc6** 13 **7.Be3** 28 **Be7** 16 **8.Qd2** 27 **0-0** 8 **9.dxc5** 54 **Nxc5** 12 **10.0-0-0** 11:18 **b6** 0.82/18 2:07

[10...Qc7!= 0.26/18]

[10...a6 11.Qf2 b6 12.Nd4 Qc7 13.Kb1 Bb7 14.Nxc6 Bxc6 15.Bd4 Bb7 16.Bd3 b5 17.Ne2 b4 18.Ng3 Rac8 19.f5 f6 20.exf6 Bxf6 21.Bxc5 Qxc5 22.Qxc5 Rxc5 23.fxe6 Re8 24.Rde1 g6 25.Rhf1 ½-½ Sudgen,J (2773)-Osnos,V (2787) Zagreb 1955]

11.h4 0.34/18 7:43

[11.Qe1!± 0.82/18]

11...Bb7 1:00 White is slightly better.

12.Qe1 6:50

[12.h5 Rc8 13.Rh3 Nb4 14.Nd4 Ne4 15.Nxe4 dxe4 16.Kb1 Qd5 17.c4 Rxc4 18.Bxc4 Qxc4 19.b3 Qd5 20.Nc2 Nd3 21.h6 g6 22.Ne1 Bb4 23.Qxb4 Nxb4 24.Rxd5 Nxd5 25.Nc2 Ba6 26.Bd2 Bd3 0-1 Celerier, E (2413)-Ig1 (2473) New Orleans 1920 (7)]

12...Qe8N 1.08/21 34

[12...a6± 0.45/19 13.h5 Qc7 14.Kb1 Rfd8 15.Ne2 Chapter French Steinitz-7...Be7,8]

13.h5 0.47/19 24

[13.Kb1± 1.08/21]

13...Ne4 0.87/20 2:23

[13...Rc8± 0.47/19]

14.h6 0.39/18 14

[14.Kb1!± 0.87/20]

14...g6± 2:32 **15.Bb5** -0.09/23 7:30

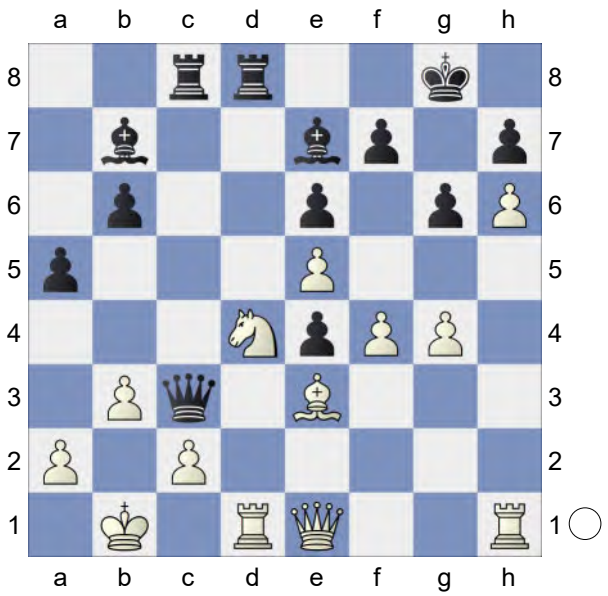
[15.Kb1± 0.63/19]

15...Rc8 1:40 **16.Nxe4** 7:59 **dxe4** 53 **17.Bxc6** 3:35 Remove Defender **17...Qxc6** 1:09 **18.Nd4** 9:36 Active counter play! **18...Qc4** 37 **19.Kb1⇄** 4:31 White puts up resistance **19...Rfd8** 10 **20.b3** -0.36/20 8:02

[20.g4= 0.01/18 should be considered.]

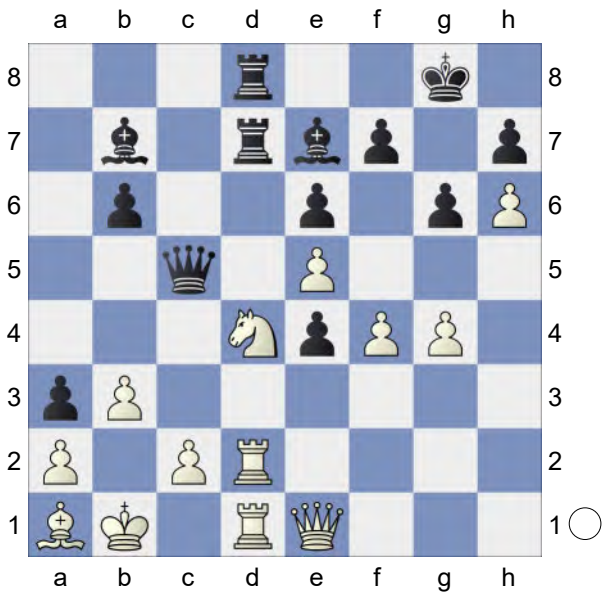
20...Qc3∓ 40 **21.g4** 8 **a5** 0.01/18 5:00

[Black should play 21...Rd5!∓ -0.54/18]

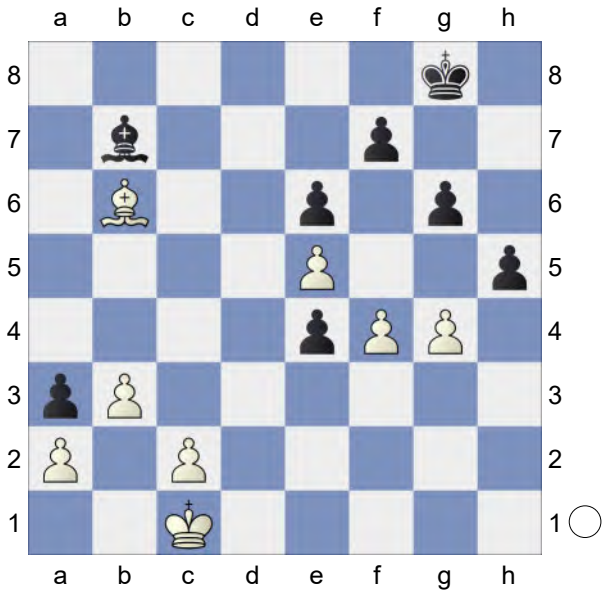


22.Bc1 -1.13/24 5:11 **Qc5!∓** 3:27
[22...Rxd4 23.Qxc3 Rxc3 24.Rxd4+-]
23.Bb2 -2.26/19 19
[23.Be3∓ -0.52/20]
23...a4!-+ 1:36 **24.Rh2** -2.38/19 14
[24.Qe3∓ -1.49/18]
24...a3 1:56 **25.Ba1** 3:42 **Rd7?** -0.53/22 28
[25...b5-+ -2.15/21 ...b4 is the strong threat. 26.Rhd2 b4]
26.Rhd2 -1.27/22 1:57
[26.c4∓ -0.53/22]
26...Rcd8? 1.69/27 1:15
[26...b5∓ -1.27/22]

(Diagram)

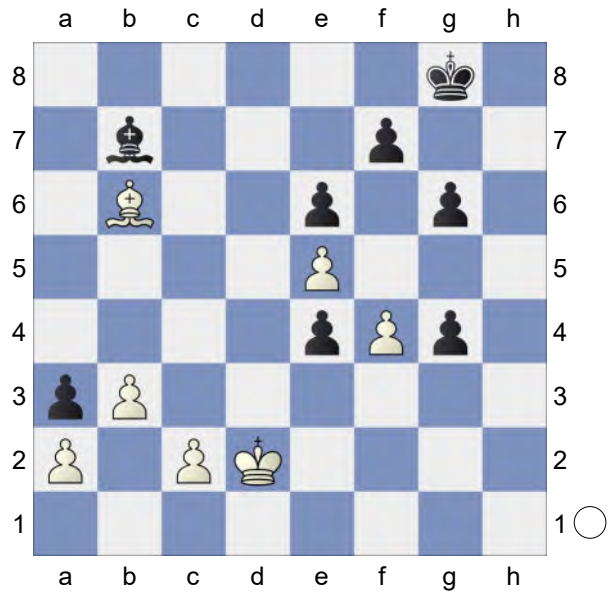


27.Nf5!+- 2:28 Discovered Attack
27...Rxd2 1:53 **28.Nxe7+** 4:58 **Qxe7** 2
29.Rxd2 1:41 **Rxd2** 1:06 **30.Qxd2±** 2:03 Endgame KQB-KQB **30...Qh4** 14
31.Bd4 1.06/22 2:28
[31.g5+- 1.68/28 Qh1+ 32.Qc1]
31...Qxh6 35 **32.Bxb6** 1:27 **Qh1+** 1:11
33.Qc1 22 **Qxc1+** 6:03 **34.Kxc1** 1:31
Black must now prevent g5. KB-KB
34...h5 3:16



35.Kd2 0.04/26 30
[Only move: 35.Bf2!± 1.21/27]
35...hxg4 1.29/25 26

[35...h4!= 0.04/26 keeps the balance.]

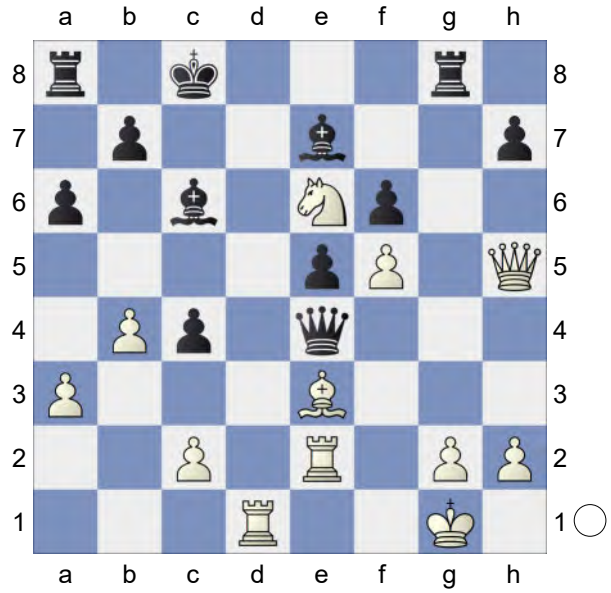


36.Bc5 0.56/24 32
[Better is 36.Bf2!± 1.29/25]
36...g3? 3.10/23 19
[36...Kg7!± 0.56/24]
37.Bxa3+- 2:25 **g5?** 4.47/22 1:17
[37...e3+ 2.69/21 might work better. 38.Kxe3 Kg7]
38.fxg5 1:41 **Kg7?** 7.72/22 2
[38...e3+ 3.62/24 39.Kxe3 Kh7]
39.Bc5 39 White is clearly winning. **39...Kg6** 37 **40.Be3** 0 **Kf5** 0 **41.c4** 1:07 **Kxe5 42.b4 Kf5 43.b5 Kg4** Weighted Error Value: White=0.42/ Black=0.71 **44.a4** An unexpected result. **½-½**

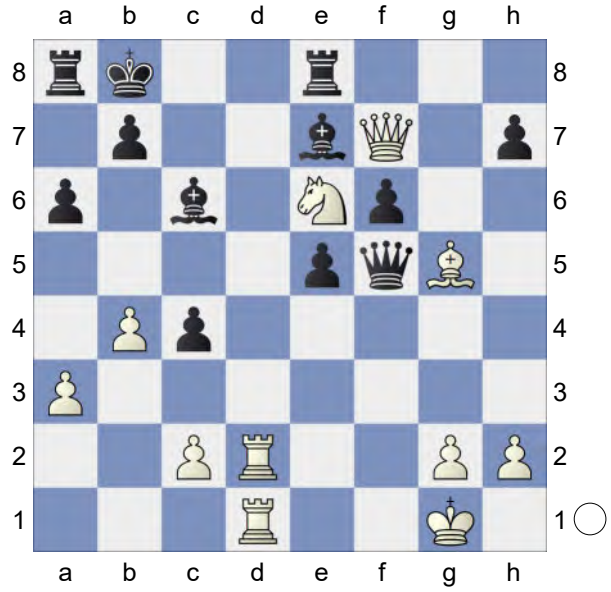
58 **C11**
□ **Firouzja,Alireza** **2785**
■ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2764**
Titled Tue 25th Apr Early blitz (10)
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.d4 Nf6 2.Nc3 e6 3.e4 d5 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Be7 8.a3 a6** 0.59/18
[8...0-0= 0.22/18]
9.dxc5!± Nxc5 1.01/18
[9...Bxc5± 0.37/19 10.Bxc5 Nxc5]
10.b4± White is better. **10...Nd7 11.Bd3 Qc7N**
[11...Nb6 12.Ne2 Bd7 13.0-0 0-0 14.Qe1 f5 15.Kh1 Rc8 16.Rg1 Nc4 17.Bxc4 dxc4 18.Rd1 Qc7 19.Qf2 b5 20.Bc5 h6 21.Nc3 Qb7 22.Bxe7 Nxe7 23.Rd6 ½-½ Schuster,P-Oei,H 98/307 Kusadasi 2006]
12.Ne2 White is more active. **12...f6 13.Ned4 Nb6** 2.28/20
[13...Nd8± 1.01/20]
14.0-0 0.97/19
[14.Nxc6+- 2.28/20 has better winning chances. bxc6 15.exf6 Bxf6 16.0-0]
14...Nc4? 2.93/20
[14...f5± 0.97/19 was worth a try.]
15.Bxc4+- dxc4 16.Nxc6 1.94/22
[⌓16.exf6 3.80/22 Bxf6 17.Nxc6 Qxc6 18.Ne5]
16...Qxc6 Black is weak on the dark squares **17.exf6! gxf6 18.Nd4↑** White is on the roll. **18...Qd5** Dodges Qh5+ **19.Qe2** 1.02/19
[19.Qg4!+- 2.06/20]
19...Bd7 2.39/21
[19...b5± 1.02/19]
20.Rad1 Threatens to win with f5!.
20...Qe4 5.31/19
[20...0-0-0± 1.47/21 is a better chance. 21.f5 e5 *(21...exf5 22.Nxf5 Qf7 23.Bb6+-)*]
21.f5 e5 7.89/22 Against Rf4
[⌓21...0-0-0 4.64/19 22.Qxc4+ Kb8]
22.Qh5+ Kd8 23.Ne6+ Kc8 24.Rfe1 Rg8? 8.46/20
[24...Bc6 3.69/19 25.Re2 Be8 *(25...Rg8? 26.Bg5+-)*]

25.Re2
[25.Qxh7? Qxg2#]
25...Bc6

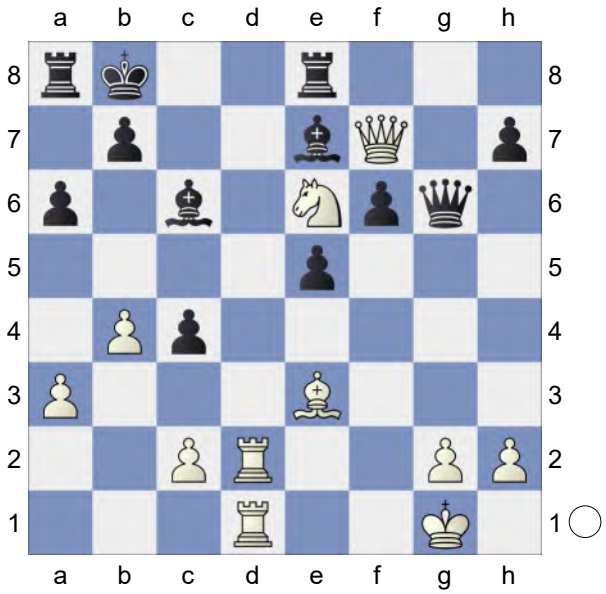


26.Bg5! Qxf5
[26...Be8 27.Rxe4]
27.Qf7! Re8 28.Red2 Kb8



29.Be3! Threatening mate with Qxe8+!.
29...Qg6

(Diagram)

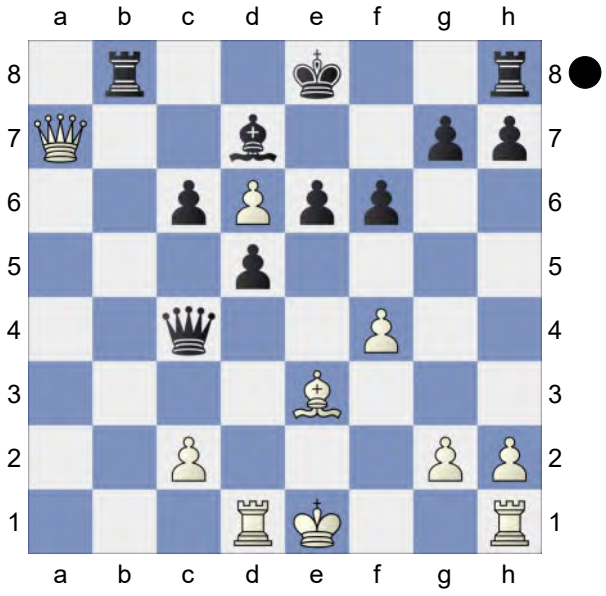


Weighted Error Value: White=0.38/Black=2.00 **30.Qxe7!!** Remove Defender, Deflection, Back Rank
1-0

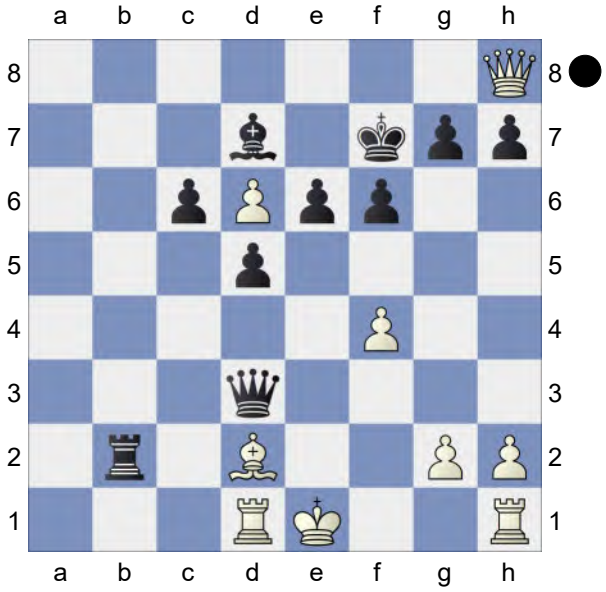
59 **C11**
□ **Firouzja,Alireza** **2785**
■ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2764**
11th Norway Chess 2023 (4.4) 03.06.23
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Qb6 9.Qd2 Qxb2 10.Rb1 Qa3 11.Ncb5 Qxa2 12.Rd1**
[12.Nc7+? Kd8 13.Ndxe6+ *(13.Nxa8? Qxb1+ 14.Kf2 Nxd4-+; 13.Nxc6+? bxc6 14.Nxa8 Qxb1+ 15.Kf2 Qb4-+)* 13...fxe6-+]
[12.Rb3 keeps more tension. Qa1+ 13.Ke2 Kd8 14.g3]
12...Rb8!
[12...Nxd4? 13.Bxd4 Qa4 14.Ra1+- *(14.Nc7+ Kd8+-)*]
13.Nc7+ Kd8 Black is slightly better.

14.Ncb5 Nc5 15.Bd3 Nxd3+N
[15...Nxd4 16.Bxd4 Bd7 17.Nd6 Bxd6 18.exd6 Rc8 19.0-0 Nxd3 20.Qxd3 Qxc2 21.Qa3 Bc6 22.f5 e5 23.d7 Bxd7 24.Bxa7 Rc6 25.Qa5+ Kc8 26.Bb6 Rxb6 27.Rc1 Chigaev,M (2520)-Alekseenko,K (2462) Loo 120/(73) 2014]
16.Qxd3 Bd7 0.01/19
[16...a6!∓ -0.42/20 deserves consideration. 17.Nxc6+ bxc6]
17.Nd6 -1.20/20
[17.0-0= 0.01/19 remains equal.]
17...Bxd6∓ 18.exd6 Qc4 19.Qd2 -1.91/19
[19.0-0∓ -0.96/17 is a better defense.]
19...f6 -1.47/17
[19...Rc8-+ -1.91/19 and ...Nxd4 should not be overlooked 20.Ra1 f6]
20.Nxc6+ bxc6 -1.21/21
[Worse is 20...Bxc6 21.Qa5+ b6 *(21...Ke8? 22.Qc7+-)* 22.Qxa7 Qb4+ *(22...Qc3+? 23.Kf2+-)* 23.Rd2 Qxd6 24.Qxg7± *(24.Bxb6+ Kc8±)*]
[Better is 20...Qxc6-+ -1.69/19 21.Bxa7 Ra8]
21.Qa5+ Ke8 22.Qxa7



Rb2↑ Black is really pushing. Some like it hot **23.Qa8+?** -3.76/22
[23.Bd2∓ -1.36/20]
23...Kf7-+ 24.Qxh8 -6.46/29
[24.Qa7 -3.47/21 Rd8 25.Rc1]
24...Qxc2 Black is clearly winning.
25.Bd2 Qe4+ 26.Kf1 Qd3+ 27.Ke1

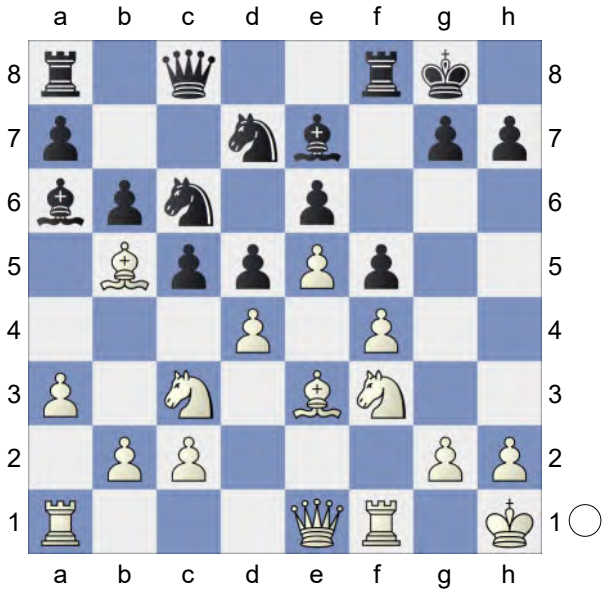


c5! (→ ...Qe4+) **28.h4 Bb5 29.Kf2** Against Qg3+ **29...Rxd2+ 30.Rxd2 Qxd2+** Endgame KQR-KQB **31.Kg3 Qe3+** Deflection **32.Kh2 Qxf4+ 33.Kg1 Qd4+ 34.Kh2 Qxh4+ 35.Kg1 Qd4+ 36.Kh2 Qe5+ 37.Kg1 Qxd6 38.Rxh7** White got outplayed after the opening. Weighted Error Value: White=0.85/ Black=0.22 (precise) **38...Qf8** Against Rxg7+
0-1

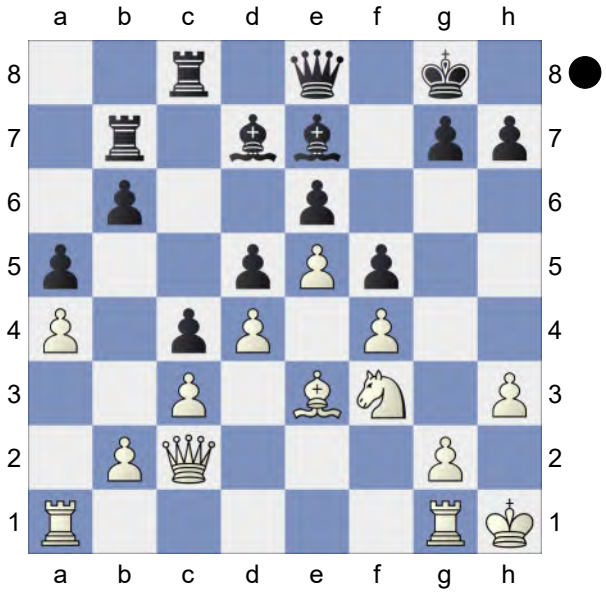
60 **C11**
□ **Anand,Viswanathan** **2785**
■ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2791**
FIDE World Rapid 2014 (13.1) 18.06.14
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3**

Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Be7 7.Be3 b6 0.77/20
[7...Nc6± 0.31/21]
8.Be2 0.24/24 *. White is more active.
[8.h4± 0.77/20]
8...0-0 White has an edge. **9.0-0 Nc6 10.Qe1**
[10.Qd2 - 74/302]
10...f5!? 11.a3N
[11.exf6 -0.01/22 11.Rd1 0.37]
11...Bb7 12.Bb5 Qc8 13.Kh1 Ba6 0.47/22
[13...cxd4= -0.02/20 14.Bxd4 Nxd4 15.Nxd4 Nb8]



14.Bxc6! Qxc6 15.Rg1 Rf7 16.Qd2 Nf8! 17.Nd1 Ng6 18.Nf2 Nh4 19.Nxh4 Bxh4= 20.a4N Rc8 21.Rgc1 Rfc7 22.Nh3 Be7 23.Ng1 Bb7 24.Nf3 a5 25.Bf2 -0.83/22
[25.c3∓ -0.37/24]
25...Qe8∓ 26.c3 -0.98/24
[26.Bh4∓ -0.60/21]
26...Bc6 27.Qc2 -1.20/20
[⌓27.Bh4 -0.76/21]
27...Bd7 28.Be3 Rb7 29.h3 c4 -0.52/22
[29...Qh5∓ -1.15/21]
30.Rg1 -1.16/23
[30.g4!∓ -0.52/22]



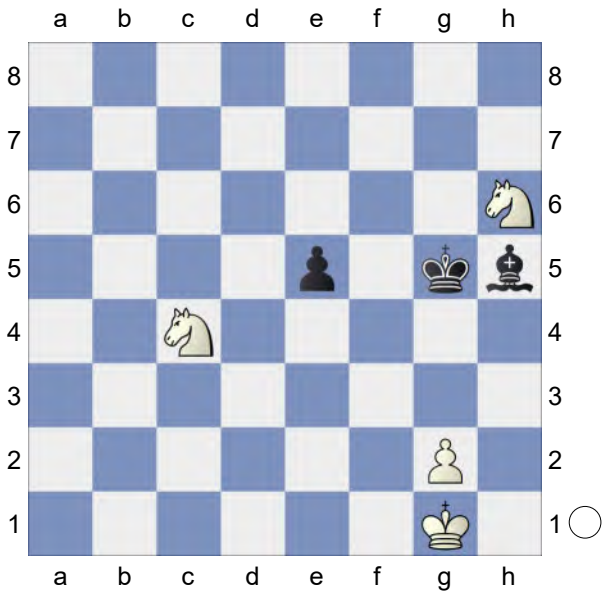
30...b5 -0.57/23
[30...Qh5!∓ -1.16/23]
31.axb5∓ Rxb5 32.Raf1 -1.29/22
[32.g4∓ -0.54/23]
32...Qh5 33.Kh2 Ra8 34.Bc1 a4 -0.32/21
[34...Rb6∓ -1.33/24 35.g4 fxg4 36.Rxg4 Be8]
35.Rf2 -1.38/24
[35.g4!∓ -0.32/21 fxg4 36.Rxg4]
35...Be8∓ 36.Nd2 Qf7 -0.94/23
[⌓36...Bh4 -1.42/23 37.g3 Be7]
37.Nb1 -1.55/24
[White should play 37.g4 -0.94/23]
37...Qf8 38.Na3 Bxa3 39.bxa3 Bg6 -1.24/24
[Black should try 39...Qe7-+ -1.67/25 40.Qd1 *(40.g4? Bg6-+)* 40...Rb3]
40.Re1 Rb3 41.Rff1 -1.97/27
[41.Qd2∓ -1.35/23]
41...Rab8 42.Re3 -2.11/26
[⌓42.Rf2 -1.62/28]
42...Qe8 43.Rfe1 -2.47/25
[43.Qf2∓ -1.57/24]
43...Rb1 44.Qf2 -2.53/27 White is weak

on the light squares
[44.R3e2∓ -1.60/27]
44...R8b3 45.Qa2 -2.50/26
[45.R3e2 -1.74/26]
45...Qb5 46.Rg1 Qb6 47.Rge1 -2.77/26
[47.Qf2 -1.84/24]
47...Qd8-+ 48.Rg1 Qh4 49.Rg3? -6.81/27
[49.Rf3 -2.73/27]
49...Bh5 -2.80/28
[⌓49...Rxc1 -6.81/27 50.Rxc1 Qxf4]
50.Qf2 Kh8 51.Rf1 Ra1 52.Qd2 Qe7 53.Re3 Rbb1 54.Ree1 Qb7 55.Qf2 -2.42/23
[55.Rf2 -1.68/24 keeps fighting.]
55...Bg6 -0.92/26
[55...Qb5-+ -2.42/23 and Black stays clearly on top. And now ...h6 would win. 56.Qh4 Bf7]
56.Qh4? -4.55/22
[56.Bb2∓ -0.92/26 is more resistant. Rxe1 *(56...Qxb2 57.Qxb2* Remove Defender *Rxb2 58.Rxa1±; 56...Rxb2 57.Qh4=)* 57.Bxa1 Rxf1 58.Qxf1]
56...Qd7? -0.29/23
[56...h6-+ -4.55/22 57.Qd8+ Kh7]
57.Bb2!= Deflection **57...Rxe1**
[But not 57...Rxb2?! 58.Rxa1 h6 59.Qe1±]
58.Rxe1 Rxe1 59.Qxe1∓ KQB-KQB
59...Qb5 -0.08/28
[59...Qb7∓ -0.56/28 60.Qa1 *(60.Bc1 Qb3∓)* 60...Qb3]
60.Qd2
[60.Bc1 Qb3 61.Kg3 Bh5∓]
60...Qb3 61.Bc1 Qb1 -0.01/28
[61...h6∓ -0.42/26 deserves consideration.]
62.Qb2 Qxb2 White happily takes the draw. Weighted Error Value: White=0.47/Black=0.54 **63.Bxb2**
½-½

61 **C11**
□ **Firouzja,Alireza** **2785**
■ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2853**
Titled Tuesday intern op 18th Apr Late bl..
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.Qd2 b5 9.dxc5 Bxc5** is cutting edge theory. ist die Avantgarde der Theorie. **10.Bd3 Qb6 11.Bf2 h6 12.0-0** The position is equal.
12...Bxf2+
[12...Bb7 13.a3 Bxf2+ 14.Qxf2 Qxf2+ 15.Kxf2 g5 16.g3 Rg8 17.Ne2 Ke7 18.Ke3 f6 19.Ned4 gxf4+ 20.gxf4 Ncxe5 21.fxe5 fxe5 22.Nb3 d4+ 23.Nbxd4 exd4+ 24.Nxd4 Nf6 25.Rae1 Rg2 26.Re2 Ng4+ 27.Kd2 ½-½ 13.f4 ♗g7 14.0-0 e6_19421 (2621)-Mladenov,P (2618) 109/(265) Chennai 2010 (4.3)]
13.Rxf2 Nc5N
[13...0-0 14.Re1 f6 15.exf6 Nxf6 16.Kh1 Bd7 17.Rfe2 Rac8 18.Nd1 b4 19.Nf2 a5 20.Rg1 Kh8 21.g4 Qc7 22.Rg3 Ng8 23.Nh3 Rf7 24.c3 bxc3 25.bxc3 Rcf8 26.Bc2 Rxf4 27.Nxf4 Rxf4 28.Ne5 1-0 Sedykh,M (2462)-Sharevich,A (2367) Montevideo Duchamp Cup 6th 2023 (2)]
14.a3 Bb7 15.b4N Nxd3 16.Qxd3 a5? 2.32/24
[16...0-0 17.Re1 Bc8 18.Ne2 Bd7 19.Ned4 Nxd4 0.68/25 *(* Black should try *19...Rfc8=* 0.06/24 *)* 20.Nxd4± Rfc8 21.Rf3 a5 22.c3 axb4

23.axb4]
[16...0-0!= 0.01/21]
17.Qxb5+-
[17.Nxb5 0-0=]
17...Qc7 3.27/24
[17...Qa7 1.88/22]
18.Qc5 Qe7 19.Nb5 Qxc5 20.bxc5 Ke7 3.79/20
[⌓20...0-0 2.37/20 21.Re1 Ba6]
21.Nd6 Ba6 22.f5 Rhb8 23.Re1 Rb2 4.97/22
[23...exf5 3.48/21 was called for. 24.Nxf5+ Kf8]
24.fxe6 fxe6 6.43/25
[24...Kxe6 3.50/26 25.Nh4 d4 26.Rxf7 a4]
25.Nh4 Excellent horsemanship.
25...Nd8 9.57/22
[⌓25...Rg8 4.93/23 26.Ng6+ Kd8]
26.Ng6+? 1.57/5
[26.c6+- 9.57/22 and the rest is easy. Nxc6 27.Ng6+ *(27.Rf7+ Kd8+-)* 27...Kd7 28.Rf7+ Ne7 29.Nxe7 *(29.Rxe7+ Kc6+-)*]
26...Kd7± 27.h4 1.33/21
[27.Rf8+- 2.28/22]
27...Rab8 28.h5? 0.15/22
[28.Re3!+- 2.06/21]
28...Rb1!= 29.Rxb1 Rxb1+ 30.Kh2 Ra1? 5.28/23
[30...Rf1!= 0.19/21 and Black is okay. 31.Nf8+ Kc6 32.Rxf1 Bxf1]
31.Rf8+- Rxa3 32.Rg8! Rc3 6.20/22
[⌓32...a4 4.06/22 33.Rxg7+ Kc6]
33.Rxg7+ Kc6 34.Ra7
[34.Rg8 Kc7±]
34...Be2 35.Rxa5 Bxh5 36.Ne7+ Kc7 37.Ra7+ Kb8 38.Rd7 Rxc5 39.Rxd8+ Kc7 40.Rc8+ Kb6 41.Rxc5 Kxc5 42.c3 d4 43.cxd4+ Kxd4 44.Ng8
[44.Nc6+ Kd5±]
44...Kxe5 45.Nc4+ Kf4 4.79/24
[⌓45...Kd4 3.38/25 46.Na5 Be2 47.Nxh6 Kc5 48.Nb3+ Kc4 49.Nd2+ Kd4]
46.Nxh6 e5 47.Kg1? 0.25/27
[47.Nb6+- 4.60/26]
47...Kg5=

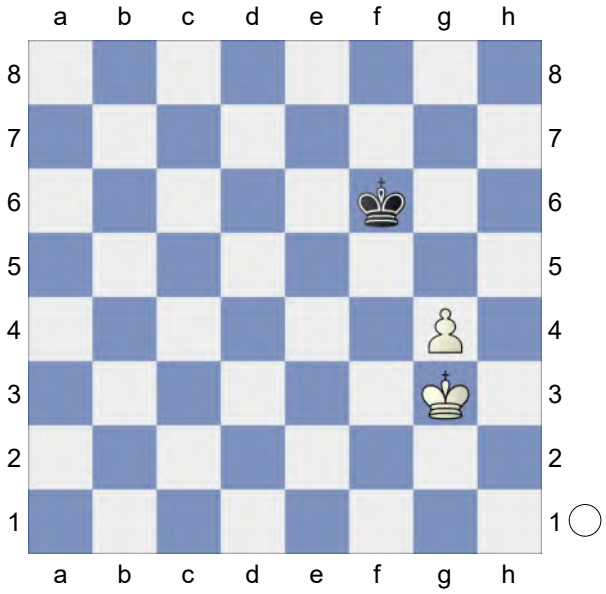


48.Nxe5! Kxh6 Endgame KB-KN. White is a pawn up. **49.Kf2 Kg5 50.Kg3 Kf5 51.Nf3 Be8 52.Kf2 Kf4 53.g3+ Kg4 54.Nh2+ Kf5 55.Nf1 Kg5 56.Ne3 Kg6 57.Nc2 Kg5 58.Nd4 Bg6 59.Nf3+ Kf5 60.Nh4+ Kg5 61.Kf3** and Nxg6 should not be overlooked **61...Bh5+ 62.Kf2 Bf7 63.Ng2 Bh5 64.Nf4 Bg4 65.Nd3 Bf5 66.Ne1 Kg4 67.Nf3 Bg6 68.Nh2+ Kf5 69.Nf1 Kg5 70.Ne3 Kf6 71.Ng2 Kg5 72.Nf4 Bf5 73.Kf3 Bg4+ 74.Ke4 Bf5+ 75.Kf3** -0.01/32
[75.Ke3± 0.43/32]
75...Bg4+ 76.Kf2 Bf5! Vorgänger: **77.Ne2 Bg4 78.Nd4 Bf5 79.Nf3+ Kg4 80.Nh4 Kg5 81.Nxf5 Kxf5±** KP-K. White is a pawn up. **82.Kf3** 0.64/22
[82.Ke3± 1.04/95]
82...Kg5 83.g4 0.08/95 ½-½ (30) Zheng, A-Cekulis,M ICCF email 2015
[83.Ke4!± 1.01/95]
83...Kg6= 84.Kg3 0.00/95

[White should try 84.Kf4± 1.04/95]

84...Kf6 1.49/95

[84...Kh6!= 0.00/95]



85.Kf4!± Kg6 86.Kg3 -0.01/94

[86.g5± 0.92/95]

86...Kg5 0.85/95

[86...Kf6= -0.01/94]

87.Kh3 Kg6 88.Kh4 Kh6 89.Kg3 -0.01/94

[89.g5+!± 0.46/95 Kh7 90.Kh5]

89...Kg6 90.Kf3 Kg5 91.Kg3 Kg6 92.Kh4 -0.01/16

[92.Kf4± 0.96/94]

92...Kh6= 93.g5+ Kg6 94.Kg4 Kg7 0.72/95

[94...Kh7∓ -0.40/95 stays ahead.]

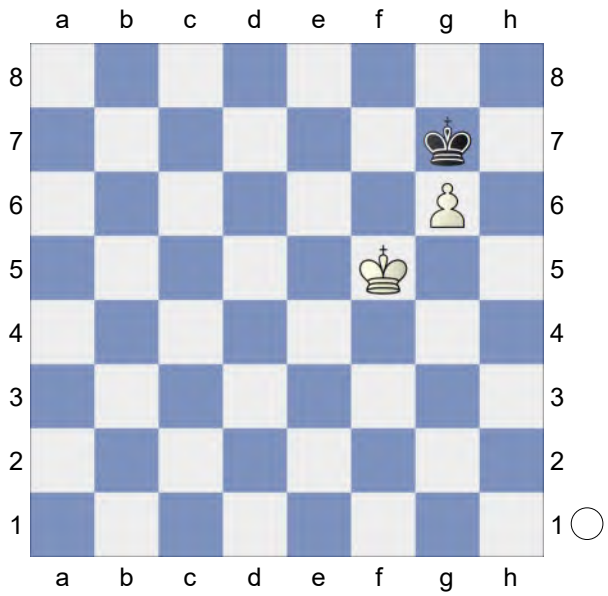
95.Kf5

[95.Kh5!?]

95...Kf7 96.g6+ Kg7 1.21/95

[96...Kg8= 0.22/94]

(Diagram)



97.Kg5 0.57/76

[97.Ke5!± 1.21/95]

Blacks defense is rewarded with a draw. Weighted Error Value: White=0.65/ Black=0.74 **97...Kg8**

½-½

62 **C11**

□ **Kramnik,Vladimir** **2785**

■ **Aronian,Levon** **2808**

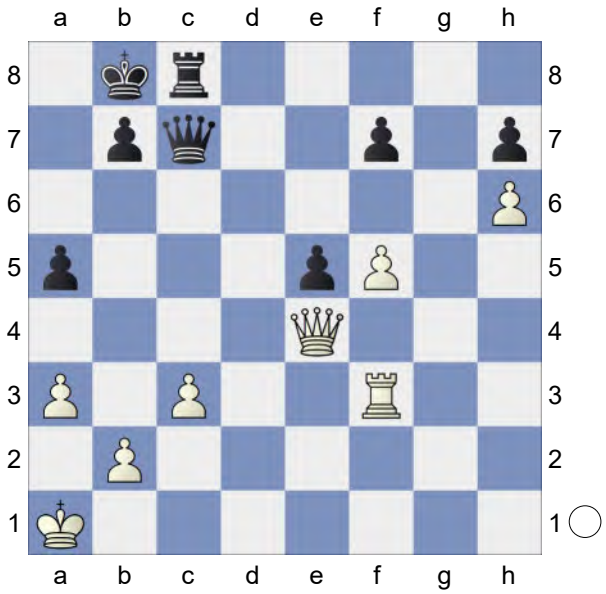
Amber-rapid 20th (9) 22.03.2011

[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Bc5 9.Qd2 Bxd4 10.Bxd4 Nxd4 11.Qxd4 Qb6 12.Qd2 Nc5 13.0-0-0 Bd7 14.Qd4** White is slightly better. **14...0-0-0**

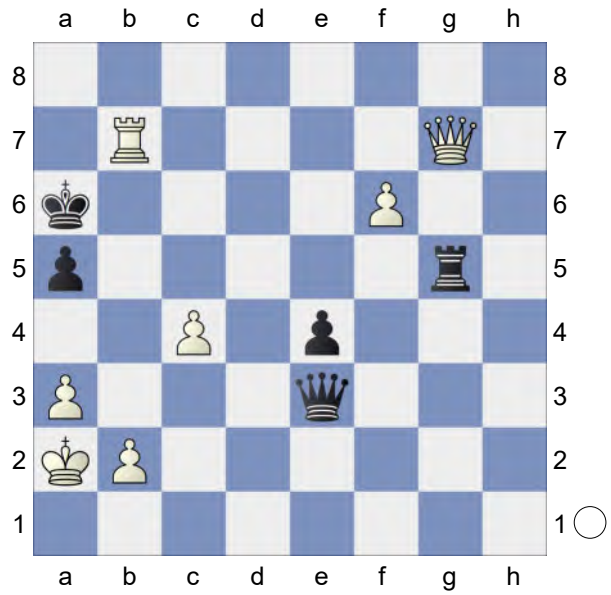
[14...a6 15.h4 0-0-0 16.Rh3 Bc6 17.Ne2 Kb8 18.Rc3 Na4 19.Qxb6 Nxb6 20.Nd4 Bd7 21.b3 Nc8 22.h5 Ne7 23.g4 Rdf8 24.g5 h6 25.Rh3 g6 26.hxg6 Nxg6 27.Rxh6 Nxf4 28.Bd3 Rhg8 29.Rg1 ½-½ Kasparov, G (2795)-Timman,J (2595) Horgen

1995 (2)]
15.h4N
[15.b4 Na4 16.Nxa4 Bxa4 17.Qxb6 axb6 18.Bd3 C 11/23 2000]
15...Kb8 1.10/20
[15...Qc7± 0.42/21]
16.Rh3 0.36/22
[16.b4!± 1.10/20 Na4 17.Nxa4 Bxa4 18.Qxb6 axb6 19.h5]
16...Rc8± 17.Kb1 Rhd8 18.h5 Be8 19.h6 g6 20.a3 Qa5 21.Bd3 Na4 0.95/21
[21...a6± 0.35/21]
22.Ne2 0.16/21
[22.Nxa4± 0.95/21 Bxa4 23.g3]
22...a6 0.89/21 Black is weak on the dark squares
[22...Nc5!= 0.16/21]
23.Qb4± Qc7 24.Nd4!
[24.Bxa6? Qxc2+ 25.Ka2 Nc5 *(25...Qxd1 26.Qxb7#)* 26.Bxb7 Nxb7-+ *(26...Qxd1? 27.Bxc8+ Ka8 28.Qxc5+-)*]
24...a5 25.Qd2 0.38/21
[25.Qb3!± 0.78/23]
25...Nc5 0.94/20
[Black should try 25...Qb6± 0.38/21 26.Nb3 Nc5]
26.Qe1 Qb6 27.Ka1 -0.01/20
[27.g4± 1.02/21]
27...Ba4 1.05/20
[27...Na4= -0.01/20 28.Nb3 Nxb2 29.Kxb2 a4 Pin]
28.Rd2 0.01/21
[Better is 28.Qe2± 1.05/20]
28...Rc7 1.04/22
[28...Ne4!= 0.01/21 keeps the balance. 29.Bxe4 dxe4]
29.Qe2 0.48/22
[29.Qe3± 1.04/22]
29...Rdc8 0.92/22
[29...Ne4± 0.48/22 30.Bxe4 dxe4]
30.g4 Bd7 31.Qe3 0.43/20
[31.Rf3!± 0.97/21]
31...Na4!± 32.Nb3 Active counter play! **32...Nc5! 33.Nxc5 Rxc5 34.Rf3 Bb5 35.f5 Bxd3 36.Rxd3 gxf5 37.gxf5 Qc7** 0.74/23
[37...exf5± 0.33/20 38.Rxf5 Qe6]
38.c3 d4 39.Rxd4 Rxe5 40.Qf2 Qc6 41.Qg3! Qc7 42.Rc4 Deflection **42...Qxc4 43.Qxe5+** Endgame KQR-KQR **43...Qc7 44.Qe4** Black cannot hold the game after this. **44...e5** 3.39/22
[44...Qc6± 0.40/21 45.Qe5+ Qc7]



45.Rg3!+- Threatens to win with Rg7.
45...Rd8 46.Rg7 Ka7 47.Ka2
[Stronger than 47.Rxh7 Qb6 48.Qc2 *(48.Qxe5? Rd1+ 49.Ka2 a4-+; 48.Rxf7 Qb3∓)* 48...Qg1+ 49.Ka2 Rd1=]
47...Rd7? 4.96/23
[47...Qb6 2.94/23]
48.Rxh7 Qb6 ...Rd2 is the strong threat.
49.Qa4
[49.Qxe5? perishes. a4-+ *(49...f6 50.Qb8+ Kxb8 51.Rxd7=)*]
49...Rd5 7.35/22
[⌓49...Rd2 4.49/23 50.Qb3 *(50.Rxf7? Qxb2#)* 50...Qc6]

50.Rxf7 Rb5 51.Qc2 Qxh6 52.c4 Rc5 53.f6 Qe3 Dodges Qe4 **54.Qg2 e4 55.Qg7 Rg5 56.Rxb7+ Ka6**

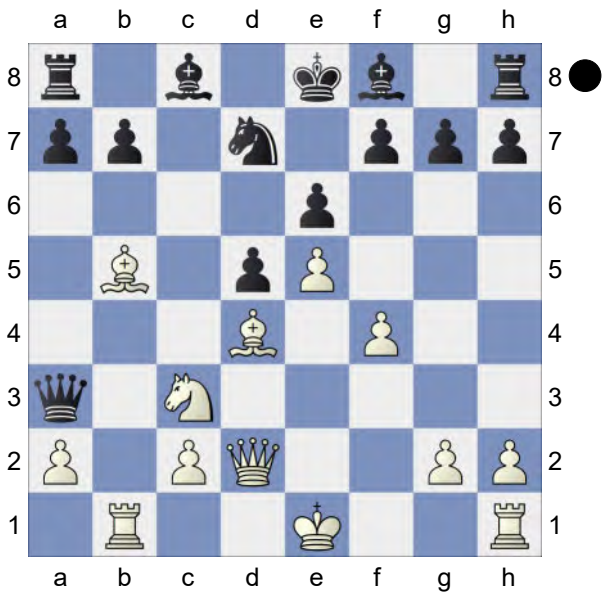


57.Rb8 14.60/26 **Rxg7** Weighted Error Value: White=0.30/Black=0.72 **58.fxg7** An unexpected result.
½-½

63 **C11**
□ **Caruana,F.** **2784**
■ **Aronian,L.** **2737**
12th Sinquefield Cup (7.1) 25.08.2025
[Kitty Kat]

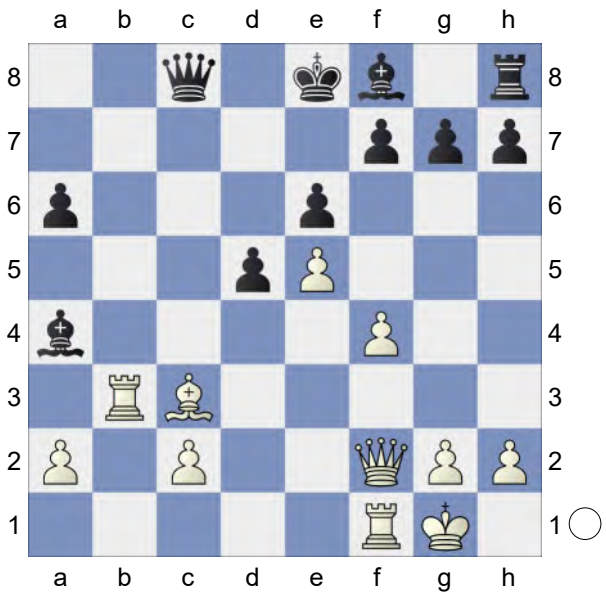
C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Qb6 9.Qd2 Qxb2 10.Rb1 Qa3 11.Bb5! Nxd4 12.Bxd4**

(Diagram)



a6 13.Bxd7+ Bxd7 White is slightly better. **14.Rb3 Qe7**
[Not 14...Qa5? 15.Bb6+- *(15.Rxb7 Bb4∓)*]
15.Rxb7 Black must now prevent 0-0.
15...Rc8 0.94/19
[15...Qh4+= 0.29/21 16.Qf2 Qxf2+ 17.Kxf2 Be7]
16.0-0 0.25/19 White is much more active.
[16.f5± 0.94/19]
16...Qd8= 17.Qf2 0.22/19
[17.Qe3± 0.59/19]
17...Rxc3! Decoy **18.Bxc3 Qc8 19.Rb3 Ba4**

(Diagram)



20.Bd4! Bxb3 21.axb3 Be7! 22.f5N 0.05/19

[22.c3± 0.42/21 0-0 23.b4 *(23.Ra1 Qb7 24.b4 Rc8 25.f5 exf5 26.Qxf5 Rc6 27.Ra5* Kriebel,T (2519)-Yeritsyan,A (2349) 141/(97) Marianske Lazne 2019*)* 23...Qc4 24.Ra1 g6 25.Qf1 Rc8 26.Qxc4 Rxc4 27.Rb1 g5 #3 6) Steinitz - 11. Bb5 with 16.-17.Qf2]

22...exf5! The position is equal. **23.Qxf5 0-0 24.Qxc8 Rxc8** Endgame KRB-KRB **25.c3 f6 26.exf6 Bxf6 27.Bxf6 gxf6 28.Rxf6 Rxc3 29.Rxa6 Rxb3** KR-KR **30.Ra7 Rb1+ 31.Kf2 Rb2+ 32.Kg1 Rb1+ 33.Kf2 Rb2+ 34.Kg1** Weighted Error Value: White=0.11 (very precise) / Black=0.04 (flawless) **34...Rb1+**

½-½

64 **C11**

□ **Gukesh,Dommaraju** **2783**

■ **Ding,Liren** **2728**

WCh 2024 Singapore SIN (1.1) 25.11.24

[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 In this chapter, we'll be covering the sidelines for White in the Steinitz system. **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nce2 Nc6 7.c3 a5**

[7...f5 8.Nf3 Be7 9.Kf2 b5 10.Rg1 b4 11.g4 g6 12.gxf5 exf5 13.Be3 c4 14.Rg3 Rb8 15.Bg2 Nf8 16.Qh1 bxc3 17.bxc3 Ba3 18.Bc1 Bxc1 19.Qxc1 Qa5 20.Ne1 Ne7 21.Nc2 Ne6 22.Bf3 ½-½ Olsen,J (2587)-Brenninkmeijer,J (2547) Wch Rapid Astana 2012 (7)]

[7...Qb6 8.a3 a5 9.Nf3 f6 10.g3 Be7 11.h4 0-0 12.Bh3 cxd4 13.cxd4 fxe5 14.Bxe6+ Kh8 15.Ng5 Nxd4 16.Nxd4 exd4 17.Nf7+ Rxf7 18.Bxf7 Nf6 19.Bh5 d3 20.Qf3 Ne4 21.Rf1 Bb4+ 22.axb4 0-1 Karttunen,M (2480)-Mazzilli,P (2303) Titled Tuesday intern op 07th Jan Early blitz 2025 (7)]

8.Nf3 a4 9.Be3N

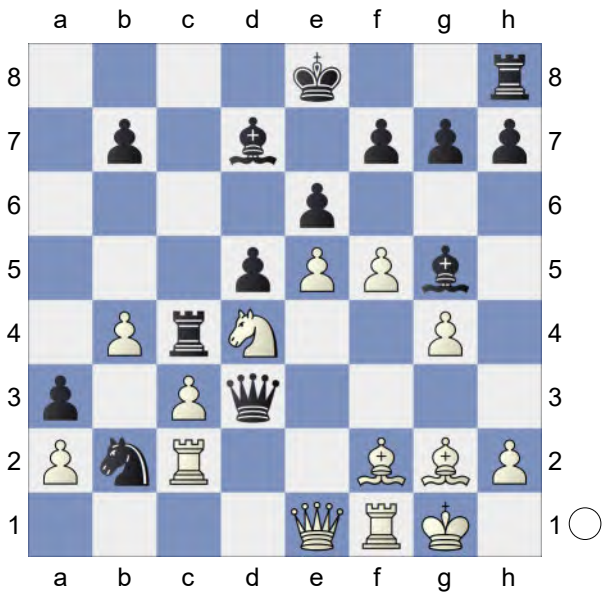
[9.Kf2 Be7 10.g4 Qc7 11.Ng3 cxd4 12.cxd4 a3 13.bxa3 Nb6 14.Nh5 0-0 15.g5 Bxa3 16.Qc2 Kh8 17.Bd3 Nc4 18.Bxh7 Bxc1 19.Qxc1 Ra3 20.Bb1 Qb6 21.Rd1 Rxf3+ 22.Kxf3 Nxd4+ 23.Rxd4 Qxd4 1-0 Lodici,L (2564)-Panda,S (2381) Masters Open 2024 (3.28)]

[9.a3 Be7 10.h4 f6 11.Ng3 Qa5 12.Nh5 0-0 13.Bd3 cxd4 Chapter 4-Steinitz-3.Nc3 Nf6 sidelines 2023]

9...Be7 The position is equal. **10.g4** -0.38/18

[10.Ng3= 0.22/17]
10...Qa5 0.04/16
[10...0-0∓ -0.38/18]
11.Bg2= a3 12.b3 White wants to play dxc5. **12...cxd4 13.b4 Qc7 14.Nexd4 Nb6! 15.0-0**
[15.Nb5!? Qd8□ 16.Bf1=]
15...Nc4 16.Bf2 Bd7 17.Qe2 Nxd4 18.Nxd4 Nb2 19.Qe3 Rc8 20.Rac1 -0.58/20
[20.Be1= 0.01/19]
20...Qc4∓ 21.f5 -0.96/18
[21.Rfe1!= -0.26/18]
21...Qd3∓ Black is more active.
[21...Qxa2 22.Ra1 Qc4 23.Rxa3±]
22.Qe1? -2.37/19
[22.g5∓ -0.71/20]
22...Bg5-+
[22...exf5? 23.e6 *(23.Bxd5 Qa6±)* 23...Bxe6 24.Nxe6 fxe6 25.Qxe6+-]
23.Rc2 -3.21/20 Repels Bd2
[23.Nb3 -1.85/19 is a better defense.]
23...Rc4
[23...exf5 24.e6 fxe6 25.Nxe6 Qxc2 26.Nxg5+ Kf8 27.Qe5+-]
[23...Ba4 24.fxe6 fxe6 *(24...Bxc2 25.exf7+ Kxf7 26.e6+ Ke8 27.Qe5=)* 25.Nxe6 *(25.Re2? Bd1-+)* 25...Bxc2 *(25...Qxc2 26.Nxg7+ Kd8 27.Ne6+ Ke7 28.Nxg5=)* 26.Nxg7+ Ke7 *(26...Kf7 27.Bd4+ Kxg7 28.e6+∓)* 27.Nf5+ Kd8 28.Bb6+ Ke8 29.e6=]

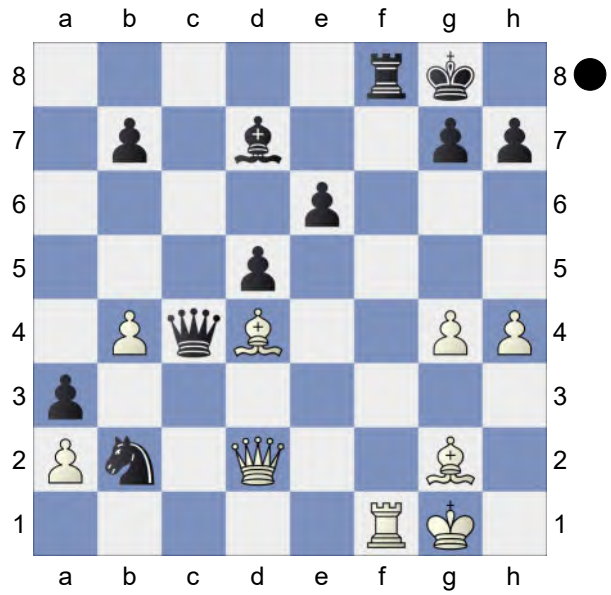
(Diagram)



24.h4 Bf4 25.Qb1 Rxc3 26.Rxc3 Qxc3 27.fxe6 fxe6→ -0.55/19 White needs to defend precisely.
[27...Bxe6-+ -2.54/21 ...Be3 is the strong threat. 28.Ne2 Qxe5 *(28...Qxb4 29.Nxf4 Qxf4 30.Qc2-+)* 29.Nxf4 Qxf4]
28.Ne2∓ Qxe5 29.Nxf4 Qxf4 30.Qc2? -3.52/19
[30.Bc5∓ -0.60/22 Qxg4 31.Qxh7 Qd4+ *(31...Qxh4 32.Qxh4 Rxh4 33.Rf8#; 31...Qxg2+ 32.Kxg2 Kd8 33.Bb6+ Ke7 34.Qxh8 Be8 35.Qxg7+)* 32.Bxd4 Rxh7 33.Bc5]
30...Qc4-+
[30...Qxb4 31.Qc7 0-0 *(31...Qxg4? 32.Bb6+-; 31...Rf8 32.Qb8+ Kf7 33.Bc5+* Skewer, Discovered Attack (Check), Double Attack *Kg6 34.Qxf8 h6 35.Bxb4 h5 36.Qf7+* Skewer, Deflection, Double Attack *Kh7 37.Qxh5+ Kg8 38.Rf8#)* 32.Qxd7 Qxg4 33.Kh2±]
31.Qd2 -4.25/23
[⌓31.Qxc4 -2.85/19 Nxc4 32.Bd4]
31...0-0
[31...Qxa2 32.Qg5 Na4 *(32...0-0? 33.Bd4+-)* 33.Bg3+- *(33.Qxg7 Rf8±)*]

[31...Qxg4? 32.Bc5 b6 *(32...Qxh4 33.Qc3∓)* 33.Bxb6-+]

32.Bd4



Nd3!

[32...Qxa2 33.Qg5 Rxf1+ 34.Bxf1 e5 35.Qxe5 *(35.Qd8+ Kf7 36.Qxd7+ Kf6 37.Bc5 Qb1 38.Qe7+ Kg6 39.Qe6#)* 35...Kf8 36.Qxg7+ Ke8 37.Bf6 Be6 38.Qe7#]

33.Qe3 Hoping for Rxf8+. **33...Rxf1+**

[33...Nxb4 34.Rxf8+ Kxf8 35.Bf1±]

34.Bxf1 e5 Discovered Attack **35.Bxe5 Qxg4+ 36.Bg2?** -6.44/21

[36.Bg3 -3.34/23 Nxb4 37.Qb3]

36...Bf5 Black is clearly winning.

[Not 36...Nxb4 37.Qxa3 h6 *(37...Qxh4 38.Bc3±)* 38.Qf3-+]

37.Bg3 Be4

[And not 37...Nxb4 38.Qe8#]

38.Kh2 h6 39.Bh3 Qd1 40.Bd6 Qc2+ 41.Kg3 Qxa2 42.Be6+ Weighted Error Value: White=0.80/Black=0.18 (very precise) **42...Kh8**

0-1

65 **C11**

□ **Gukesh,Dommaraju** **2783**

■ **Ding,Liren** **2728**

WCh 2024 Singapore SIN (13.1) 11.12.24

[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.a3**

[7.Nf3 f6 8.Nf4 Qe7 9.exf6 Nxf6 10.Bb5 cxd4 11.Nxd4 Qd6 12.Qe2 Kf7 13.Nf3 e5 14.Bxc6 exf4 15.Ne5+ Kg8 16.Ba4 Bd7 17.Nxd7 Nxd7 18.0-0 Nc5 19.Bc2 Qe6 20.Qf3 Bd6 21.Rd1 Re8 1-0 Selepe,L (1930)-Palmer,R (2087) Cape Town Masters 2025 (7)]

7...Be7N 0.52/20

[7...f6= -0.05/19]

[7...a5 8.Nf3 a4 9.h4 Qa5 10.Bd2 Qb6 11.Rb1 Be7 12.Be3 0-0 13.Nf4 Qb3 14.Qc1 cxd4 15.cxd4 Na5 16.Bd3 h6 17.Rh3 Nc4 18.Bc2 Qb5 19.Nh5 Nxe3 20.Qxe3 f5 21.Rg3 Rf7 22.Qxh6 1-0 Carlsen,M (2831)-Nepomniachtchi,I (2755) CCT Final KO 2024 rapid (2.5)]

8.Be3 0.09/17

[8.Nf3± 0.52/20]

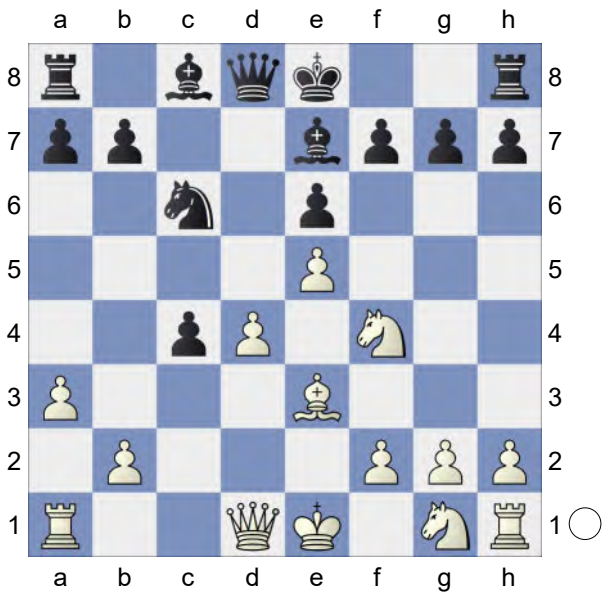
8...Nb6 0.63/19

[Black should play 8...a5= 0.09/17]

9.Nf4!± cxd4 White is slightly better.

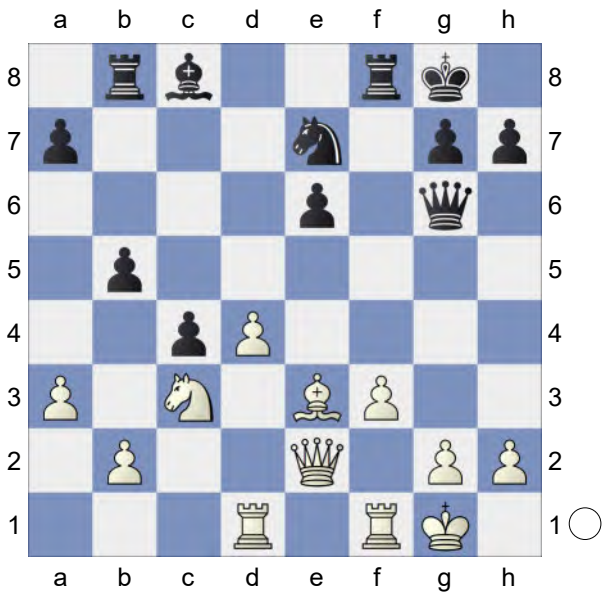
10.cxd4 Nc4 11.Bxc4 dxc4

(Diagram)

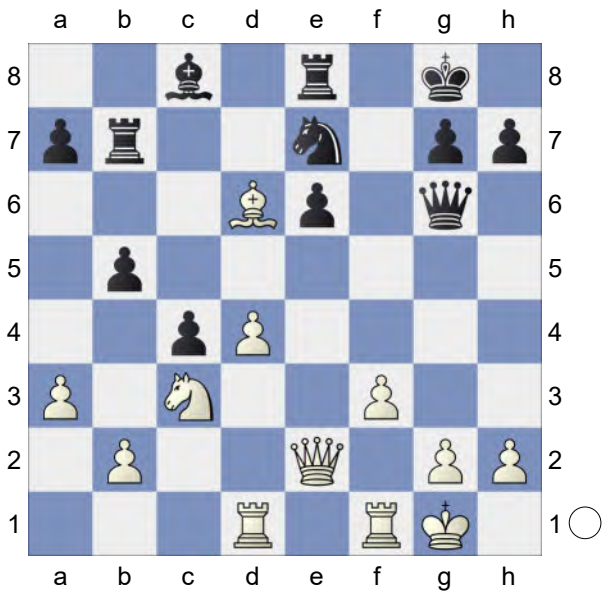


12.Nge2 0.30/18
[12.Qg4!± 0.78/19]
12...b5 0.77/20
[12...0-0= 0.30/18]
13.0-0± 0-0 14.Nc3 Rb8 15.Nh5 f5 Prevents Qg4 **16.exf6 Bxf6 17.Qf3** -0.12/19
[17.Nxf6+± 0.83/20 Qxf6 18.d5 exd5 19.Qxd5+ Kh8 20.Bg5 *(20.Nxb5 Rd8±)*]
17...Qe8 0.30/21
[17...Bxd4? 18.Qxc6 e5 19.Nxb5+-]
[17...Nxd4 -0.12/19 is superior. 18.Nxf6+ Rxf6]
18.Nxf6+= Rxf6 19.Qe2 Qg6 20.f3 Rf8 0.73/19
[20...a6= 0.16/18]
21.Rad1 Ne7

(Diagram)



22.Bf4! Decoy **22...Rb6**
[22...Rxf4? 23.Qe5+-]
23.Bc7 Rb7 1.18/18
[23...Rc6!± 0.59/19 24.Bg3 *(24.Nxb5 Nf5=)* 24...a6]
24.Bd6± Re8 1.30/17
[⌓24...Rf7 0.88/17]



25.Bxe7 0.69/19
[25.Rfe1!± 1.30/17]
25...Rexe7± 26.Qe5 a6 27.d5 exd5 28.Qxd5+ Qe6 29.Qc5 Re8 30.Rde1 0.63/23

[White should play 30.Rfe1± 1.07/23 Qf7 31.Rxe8+ Qxe8 32.Qd5+ Kf8 33.Qc5+ Kg8]
30...Qf7 2.17/23
[30...Qxe1± 0.63/23 31.Rxe1 Rxe1+ 32.Kf2 Re8]
31.Ne4? 0.49/21
[White has to play 31.Rxe8++- 2.17/23 Qxe8 32.Ne4]
31...Rf8! 32.Nd6 Rc7 33.Qe5 Qf6 34.Qd5+
[34.Qxf6 gxf6 35.Rd1 Be6 36.Rfe1]
34...Kh8 35.Re5 Re7 36.Rfe1 White has more active pieces. **36...Rxe5 37.Rxe5** 0.09/23
[37.Qxe5± 0.75/22 Qd8 38.Qd4]
37...h6= 38.Qc5 Bd7 The position is equal. **39.Ne4 Qf4 40.Re7⇄** White is not holding back **40...Bf5 41.Qd4 Rg8** Strongly threatening ... Qh4. **42.h3 Qc1+**
[42...Bh7 simplifies 43.Re6 Bxe4 44.Rxe4 Qc7]
43.Kf2 Bxe4 44.Rxe4 Endgame KQR-KQR **44...c3** Deflection **45.bxc3** Hoping for Re6. **45...Qxa3 46.Kg3 Qb3 47.Re7 a5 48.Rb7 Qc4 49.Qe5 Qc6** Wards off Rb6 **50.Qxb5 Qxc3 51.Ra7 Qe1+ 52.Kh2 Qb4 53.Qxb4 axb4** KR-KR **54.Rb7** Prevents Rb8. **54...Ra8 55.Rxb4 Ra2 56.Kg3 Kh7 57.Rb5 Kg6 58.f4 Kf6 59.Kf3 Rc2 60.g3 Rc3+ 61.Kg4 Ra3 62.h4 Rc3 63.Rb6+ Kf7 64.f5 h5+ 65.Kf4 Rc4+ 66.Kf3 Rc3+ 67.Kf4 Rc4+ 68.Kf3** Weighted Error Value: White=0.15 (very precise) /Black=0.16 (very precise) **68...Rc3+**
½-½

66 **C11**
□ **Nakamura,Hikaru** **2780**
■ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2786**
chess.com SpeedChess 2023 (2.27)
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.Nc3 d5 3.d4 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Ne2 Be7** 7...b5 is becoming the main line. 7...b5 wird zur Hauptvariante. **8.g3 0-0 9.c3 b5 10.a3** -0.40/19
[10.Bh3= 0.01/21 was preferable.]
[10.h4 b4 11.Bh3 bxc3 12.bxc3 cxd4 13.cxd4 Bb4+ 14.Kf2 Ba6 15.Be3 Re8 16.f5 exf5 17.Bxf5 Ndxe5 18.dxe5 Nxe5 19.Nxe5 Qf6 20.Bf4 Bc5+ 21.Kg2 Qxf5 22.Nd4 Qe4+ 23.Nef3 Bxd4 24.Qxd4 Qc2+ 0-1 Mateo,R (2446)-Dgebuadze,A (2544) 34th Open Donostia ESP 2011 (9)]
10...a5∓ 11.Bh3N
[11.Bg2 b4 12.axb4 cxb4 13.0-0 Nb6 14.g4 a4 15.cxb4 Nxb4 16.Rf2 f6 17.exf6 Bxf6 18.g5 Be7 19.Nc3 Bd6 20.Ne5 Ba6 21.Bh3 Qe7 22.Nxa4 Nxa4 23.Rxa4 Bxe5 24.fxe5 Rxf2 25.Kxf2 Rc8 0-1 Keleberda,T (2245)-Sambuev,B (2480) Toronto Excelsior op 2023 (7)]
[11.h4 a4 12.f5 exf5 13.Nf4 cxd4 14.cxd4 b4 15.Bd3 Nb6 16.Kf2 b3 17.Be3 f6 18.e6 g6 19.h5 g5 20.Bxf5 gxf4 21.gxf4 Bd6 22.Qg1+ Kh8 23.Nh4 Rg8 24.Ng6+ hxg6 25.hxg6+ Kg7 1-0 Ben Artzi,I (2334)-Efroimski,M (2398) ISR-chT Israel 2025 (9.4)]
11...a4N Black is slightly better.
[Vorgänger: 11...Ba6 0.55/21 11...a4 -0.43 12.0-0 0.04/21 *(12.f5± 0.55/21)* 12...b4 0.50/19 *(12...cxd4=*

0.04/21 *13.cxd4 Nb6)* 13.Rf2 -0.46/20 *(13.f5± 0.50/19)* 13...bxc3 14.bxc3 cxd4 0.22/19 *(14...Qb6∓* -0.34/21 *)* 15.cxd4= g6 0.55/20 *(15...Qb6=* -0.04/20 *)* 16.g4 -0.47/20 *(16.f5!± 0.55/20 exf5 17.Bh6)* 16...f5 0.44/22 *(16...Qb6!∓* -0.47/20 *)* 17.gxf5± exf5 0.84/20 ;½-½ Quesada Perez,Y (2565)-Csonka,B (2498) Titled Tuesday intern op 04th May blitz 2021 (4) *(17...gxf5=* 0.15/21 *18.Ng3 Kh8)*]

12.0-0 Nb6 13.dxc5 Bxc5+ 14.Ned4 Nc4 Against Be3 **15.Kh1 Nxd4** 0.07/18

[15...Bd7∓ -0.76/19]

16.Nxd4 -1.03/19

[16.cxd4= 0.07/18 Be7 17.Rf2]

16...Bd7 17.Rf2 -1.09/20

[17.Qd3∓ -0.70/18]

17...Qb6∓ 18.Bf1 -1.27/19

[18.Qd3 -0.88/17]

18...Rae8 -0.89/17

[18...Rad8 -1.27/19 19.Rg2 f6]

19.Bd3 -1.68/17

[19.Re2∓ -0.89/17]

19...f6-+ 20.Qh5 -2.49/21

[20.Re2∓ -1.26/17 was necessary.]

20...f5

[20...Bxd4 21.Bxh7+ *(21.Qxh7+ Kf7+-)* 21...Kh8 22.Bg6+ Kg8 23.Qh7#]

21.Bxc4 dxc4 -0.51/22

[21...bxc4 22.Be3=]

[21...Bxd4!-+ -3.01/24 22.cxd4 dxc4 *(22...Qxd4? 23.Qf3-+)*]

22.Be3∓ Rd8 23.Kg1 Bc8 24.Rd1 Bb7 25.Rfd2 Bxd4 26.Bxd4 Qc6 27.Qh3? -2.78/21

[White should try 27.Kf2∓ -0.49/21]

27...Qh1+? -0.69/5

[Better is 27...h6-+ -2.78/21 Strongly threatening ...b4!. 28.Kf2 Kh7]

28.Kf2 White is weak on the light squares **28...Qf3+ 29.Ke1! Rd7 30.Qf1 Qh5** -0.08/25 Black has more active pieces.

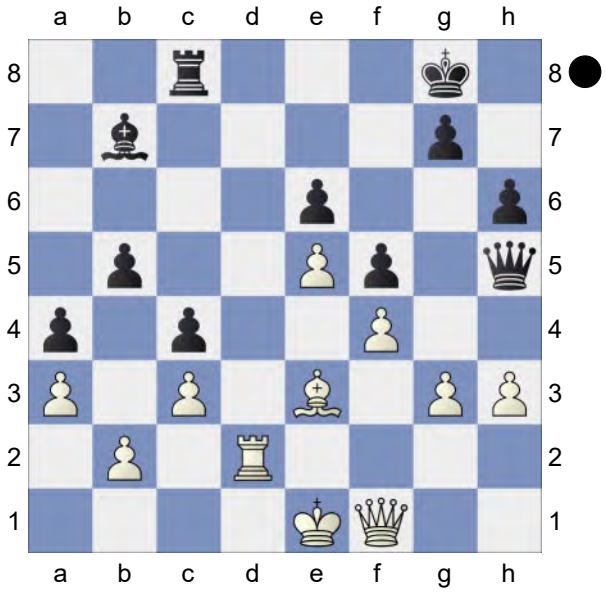
[30...Qe4+∓ -0.62/21 31.Re2 Qc6]

31.Bc5= Rxd2 32.Rxd2 Rc8 33.Be3 -0.49/23

[33.Bb4= -0.12/23]

33...h6↑ Black has the initiative. **34.h3** -1.47/23

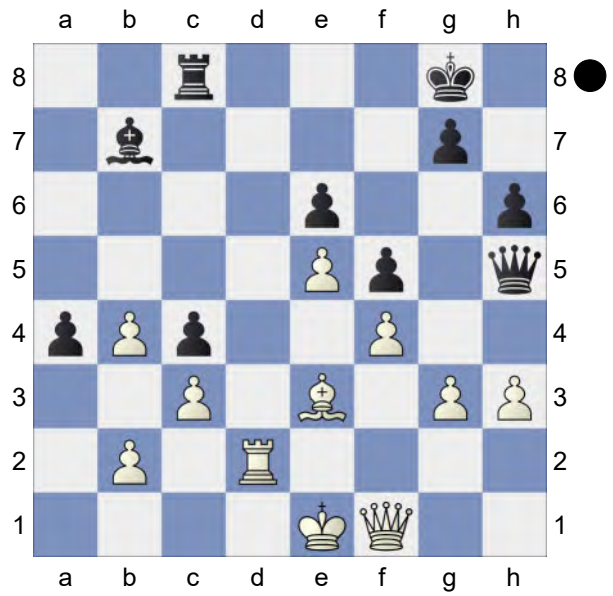
[34.Qf2= -0.21/23]



34...b4!∓ 35.axb4? -2.65/22

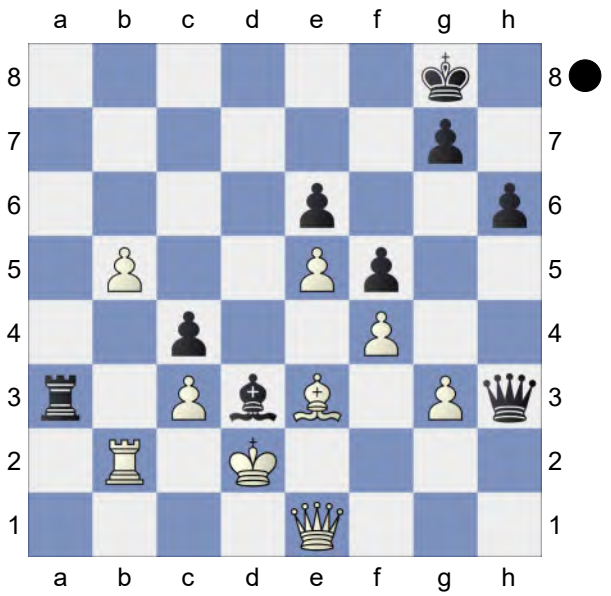
[35.Rd6∓ -1.12/22]

(Diagram)



35...Ra8!-+ 36.Rc2? -7.17/24
[36.Qxc4 -2.06/21 Kh8 37.Bf2 *(37.Qxe6 Qf3∓)*]
36...a3 37.bxa3 Rxa3 38.Kd2 Be4 39.Rb2 Bd3 40.Qe1 Qxh3 -12.91/24
[⌓40...Ra1 -#21/29 41.Bf2 Qf3 *(41...Rxe1? 42.Kxe1 Qxh3 43.Kd1-+)* 42.g4 Qg2 *(42...Rxe1? 43.Kxe1 Qxh3 44.Kd2-+; 42...Qxf4+? 43.Qe3-+)* 43.Qe3 Rf1 *(43...fxg4? 44.Qg3-+)* 44.Qg3 Rxf2+ *(44...Qxf2+? 45.Qxf2 Rxf2+ 46.Kc1-+)* 45.Ke3 Qxg3+ 46.Kd4 Rxb2 47.Kc5 Be4 *(47...Qxh3* leads to mate. *48.gxf5 Bxf5 49.Kd4 Qg2 50.Kc5 Qb7 51.Kd6 Qb6+ 52.Ke7 Qc7+ 53.Ke8 Bg6#)* 48.gxf5 Qe3+ 49.Kb5 Qxc3 *(49...Bxf5 50.Kc6 Be4+ 51.Kb5 Qxc3 52.Kb6 Qxb4+ 53.Kc7 Rd2 54.h4 Qb7#)* 50.Kc5 Qxb4+ *(50...Rxb4 51.f6 Rb7 52.f7+ Kxf7 53.h4 Qe3+ 54.Kxc4 Bd5#)* 51.Kd4 Re2 52.fxe6 c3#]
41.b5

(Diagram)



Ra1! 42.Qxa1
[42.Bf2 Qg2]
42...Qg2+ 43.Ke1 Weighted Error Value: White=1.08/Black=0.38 **43...Qf1+** Skewer
0-1

67 **C11**
□ **Firouzja,Alireza** **2777**
■ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2835**
Bullet Chess Losers blitz (6.5) 21.07.23
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Be7 8.Qd2 0-0 9.dxc5 Qa5 10.0-0-0** 0.16/23
[10.a3⩲ 0.60/19]
10...b6!= 11.Bb5 Nb4 The position is equal. **12.a3 bxc5 13.Bxd7** -0.73/21
[13.axb4 cxb4 14.Na4 *(14.Bxd7? bxc3 15.Qxc3 Bb4-+)* 14...Qxb5∓]
[13.Kb1!⩲ 0.35/21]
13...Bxd7∓ 14.axb4 cxb4 15.Nb1 Rfc8 16.Nd4 Qa2 17.f5 -2.18/19 **exf5?** -0.17/20

[17...Ba4!-+ -2.18/19 18.Rhe1 *(18.fxe6 fxe6 19.Qd3 a5=)* 18...Rxc2+ 19.Nxc2 Rc8]

18.Rhf1 -1.24/20

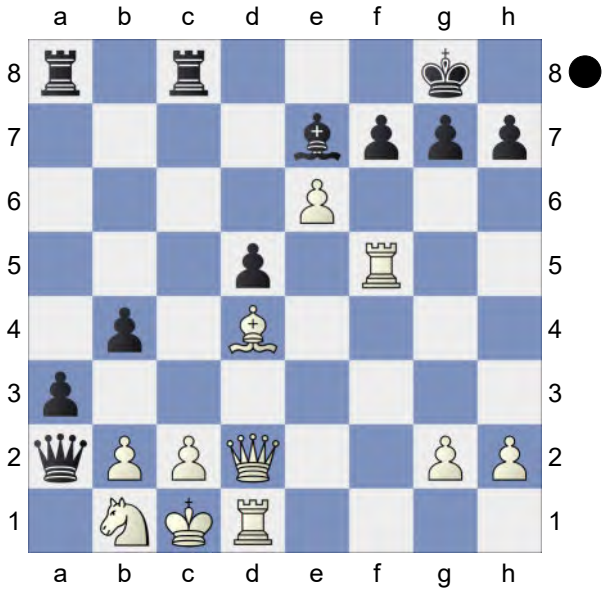
[18.Qd3!= -0.17/20 keeps the balance.]

18...a5 19.Nxf5 Bxf5 20.Rxf5 a4! 21.Bd4!

[21.Qxd5? Rxc2+ 22.Kxc2 Rc8+-+]

21...a3→ Black has strong compensation. Black mounts an attack.

22.e6!



f6

[22...fxe6?! 23.Qe3 axb2+ *(23...exf5 24.Qxe7 axb2+ 25.Kd2±)* 24.Kd2±]

[22...axb2+? 23.Bxb2 f6 *(23...fxe6? 24.Qd4+-)* 24.Rxd5+-]

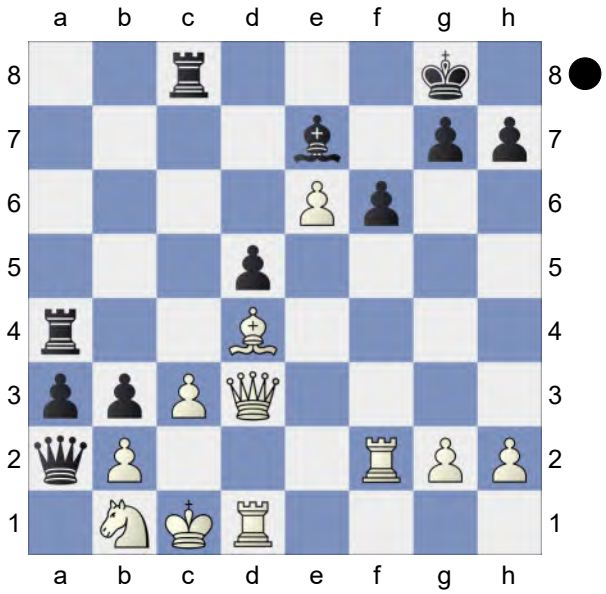
23.Qd3 b3 24.Rf2 Ra4 The board is on fire.

[24...axb2+?! 25.Bxb2 d4 26.Rdd2= *(26.Bxd4 f5±)*]

25.c3

[25.Nxa3 Bxa3 26.Bc3 *(26.bxa3? Rxd4 27.Kd2 Rxc2+ 28.Ke3 Rxd3+-+)* 26...Rac4-+]

(Diagram)



And now bxa3 would win. **25...Rxd4! 26.Qxd4 Bc5 27.Qd2** -5.14/22 **Bxf2?** -0.03/23

[27...axb2+-+ -5.14/22 28.Qxb2 Bxf2 29.Rxd5 Be3+ 30.Nd2 Rb8 *(30...Bxd2+? 31.Rxd2 Qa5 32.Rd3-+)*]

28.Qxf2= Qa1! aiming for ...a2.

[But not 28...axb2+? 29.Qxb2 Re8 30.Nd2+- *(30.Rxd5 Rxe6 31.Rd1 Re2±)*]

29.e7? -33.27/22

[29.Rxd5= -0.01/22 a2 Pin 30.Qf5]

29...a2-+ Pin **30.e8Q+ Rxe8 31.Qf5 d4** Weighted Error Value: White=0.73/ Black=0.28 (precise) **32.Rh1N**

0-1

68 **C11**

□ **Caruana,F.** **2776**

■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2782**

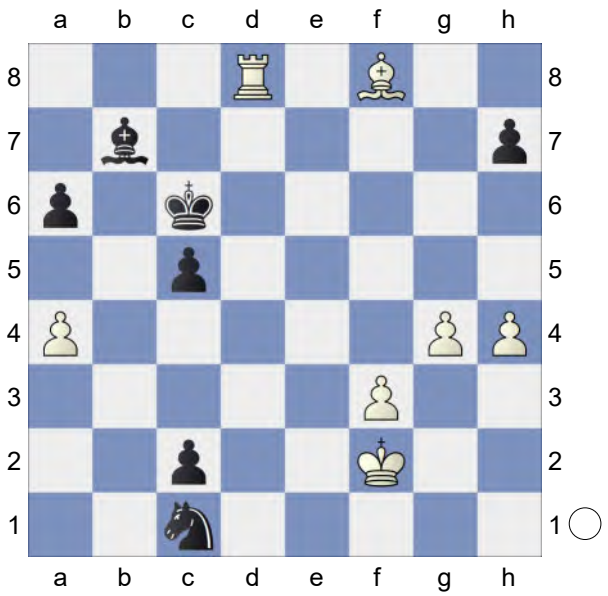
13th Norway Chess 2025 (3.1) 28.05.25

[Kitty Kat]

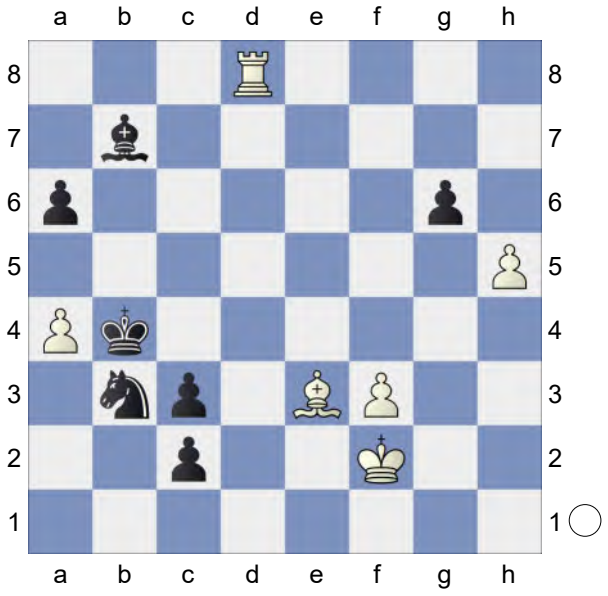
C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6**

7.h4N
[7.Nf3 Qa5 *(7...a5 8.a4 cxd4 9.cxd4 Nb6 10.Nf4 Bd7 11.Be2 Bb4+ 12.Bd2 f6 13.Bxb4 axb4 14.Nd3 0-0 15.b3 Be8 16.Qd2 Bh5 17.Nxb4 Bxf3 18.Nxc6 bxc6 19.Bxf3 fxe5 20.dxe5 Nd7 21.0-0 Nxe5 22.Be2* ½-½ Lihotsky,L (2730)-Carrabeo Garcia,M (2667) Mirotvorsky mem-A corr8185 1981 (6.1)*; 7...f6 8.Nf4 Qe7 9.exf6 Nxf6 10.Bb5 cxd4 11.Nxd4 Qd6 12.Qe2 Kf7 13.Nf3 e5 14.Bxc6 exf4 15.Ne5+ Kg8 16.Ba4 Bd7 17.Nxd7 Nxd7 18.0-0 Nc5 19.Bc2 Qe6 20.Qf3 Bd6 21.Rd1 Re8 22.h3* 1-0 Selepe,L (1930)-Palmer,R (2087) Cape Town Masters 2025 (7)*; 7...Be7 8.a3 0-0 9.Nf4 Qa5 10.Be3 Nxd4 11.Nxd4 cxd4 12.Bxd4 Qc7 13.Bd3 Nxe5 14.Bxh7+ Kxh7 15.Qh5+ Kg8 16.Bxe5 Bd6 17.Bxg7 Kxg7 18.Qg5+ Kh7 19.Qh5+ Kg7 20.Qg5+ Kh7 21.Qh5+ Kg7 22.Qg5+* ½-½ Ciolacu,A (2172)-Lehaci,M (2212) Bucharest Queens 2023 (7) *)* 8.Bd2 Qb6 9.Rb1 Be7 *(9...cxd4 10.cxd4 f6 11.exf6 Nxf6 12.g3 Bd6 13.Bg2 0-0* C 11/07 2000 *)* 10.g3 cxd4 11.cxd4 f6 12.exf6 Nxf6 13.Bg2 0-0 14.0-0 Bd7 15.b4 a6 16.a3 Rae8 17.Bf4 Ne4 18.Qb3 Bf6 19.Be3 Ne7 20.Nc3 Nxc3 21.Qxc3 Rc8 ½-½ Sidabutar,U (2430)-Kaussen,O (2635) USSR 10/836 1970]
7...f6 8.Nf4 cxd4 9.Nxe6 The position is equal. **9...Qb6 10.Qb3⇄** White has counterplay
[10.Nxd4 fxe5 11.Ne6 Nf6 12.Nxf8 Ne4 *(12...Rxf8 13.Qc2∓)* 13.Qh5+ Kxf8∓]
10...dxc3
[10...Ndxe5?! 11.Qxb6 *(11.Qxd5 Bd7∓)* 11...axb6 12.Nc7+ *(12.Nxd4 Nxd4 13.cxd4 Nc6=)* 12...Kf7 13.Nxa8+-]
11.bxc3 Qa5
[11...Ndxe5? 12.Qxb6 *(12.Qxd5 a6=)* 12...axb6 13.Nc7+ Kf7 14.Nxa8+-]
[11...Bc5 is more complex. 12.Nxg7+ Ke7 13.Nf5+ Ke8]
12.exf6 Nxf6 13.Nxf8 Rxf8 14.Bb5 Ne4 15.Nf3 and 0-0! would now be decisive **15...Qxc3+ 16.Qxc3 Nxc3 17.a4 a6 18.Bxc6+ bxc6 19.Bb2 Ne4 20.0-0** White has compensation. **20...c5 21.Rfe1** With the idea Ng5!. **21...Bf5** 0.53/19
[21...Rb8= 0.09/20 22.Ba3 *(22.Bxg7 Rg8±)* 22...Be6]
22.Rac1 -0.01/17
[22.Ne5± 0.53/19]
22...Kd7!= 23.Ne5+ Kd6 24.f3 Nd2 0.78/26
[24...Nf6= -0.01/22 remains equal.]
25.Rcd1!± Nb3 26.g4!
[26.Nc4+ Kc6 27.Ne5+ Kd6+-]
26...Bc8 1.65/23
[26...Bd7!± 0.64/21]
27.Nc4++- Kc6 Black is weak on the dark squares **28.Bxg7** White is more active. Black cannot hold the game after this. **28...dxc4** 5.46/19
[28...Rg8± 1.48/19]
29.Bxf8 White is clearly winning. **29...Nd4 30.Re8! c3 31.Rc1 Bb7 32.Rxa8 Ne2+ 33.Kf2 Nxc1** Endgame KRB-KBN **34.Rd8 c2**

(Diagram)



and ...Nd3+! should not be overlooked
35.Bh6!
[35.Rd2? Nd3+ 36.Rxd3 c1Q-+ *(36...c1R? 37.Rd6+ Kc7 38.Rh6+-)*]
35...Nb3 36.h5
[36.Rh8 c4 37.Rxh7 c1N+-]
36...c4 37.Bf4
[37.Rh8 c3 38.Ke2 *(38.Rxh7? is the wrong capture. Nd2-+)* 38...Kb6+-]
37...Kc5 38.Be3+
[38.Rd7 Bc6 39.Rxh7 c3±]
38...Kb4 39.g5 c3 40.g6 hxg6



41.h6!
[Weaker is 41.hxg6 Nd2 42.Rxd2 cxd2 43.Bxd2+ Kc5±]
41...c1Q 42.Bxc1 Nxc1 43.Rb8 Nd3+ Weighted Error Value: White=0.10 (very precise) /Black=0.59 **44.Ke3**
1-0

69 **C11**
□ **Karjakin,Sergey** **2771**
■ **Morozevich,A.** **2731**
FIDE World Rapid 2014 (15.3) 18.06.14
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Qb6 9.Qd2 Qxb2 10.Rb1 Qa3 11.Bb5! Nxd4 12.Bxd4 a6 13.Bxd7+ Bxd7** White has an edge.
14.Rb3 Qe7
[14...Qa5? 15.Bb6+- *(15.Rxb7 Bb4∓)*]
15.Rxb7 Rc8 0.67/20
[15...Qd8= 0.30/21 is superior.]
16.0-0± and Rfb1 would now be decisive
16...Qa3 1.22/18
[16...Qd8= 0.26/18]
17.Rb3 0.05/18
[17.h3± 1.22/18 Bc5 18.Ne2 Qa4 19.Bxc5 Rxc5 20.Qe3 Rc8 21.Qa7 Rd8 22.Nd4 0-0 23.Kh2 Bc8 24.Rc7 Rd7 25.Rxd7 Bxd7 26.Rb1 Qxa2 27.Rb7 Bc8 28.Rc7 a5 29.f5 Qa1 30.Qc5 Ba6 31.Rd7 Bb5 32.fxe6 1-0 Katz,A (2470)-Jacobson,A (2308) Los Angeles 1000GM Spring op 2023 (3)]
[17.Rfb1 Bc5 18.Ne2 Bxd4+ 19.Nxd4 Rc4 20.R7b4 0-0 21.Rxc4 dxc4 22.c3 Qc5 23.Qb2 Bb5 24.Qb4 Qd5 25.Re1 Qd7 26.h3

Rd8 27.Qa5 g6 28.Rb1 Qe8 29.Rb4 Rxd4 30.cxd4 Qd7 31.Qb6 Qd5 ½-½ Jakovenko,D (2745)-Grachev,B (2669) RUS-ch 67th Kazan 2014 (6)]

17...Qa5= 18.Qe3N -0.47/21

[18.Rf2± 0.32/21 Bc5 19.f5]

[18.Bb6 Bc5+ Qb2 Overview-N,N]

18...Bc5∓ 19.Ne2 0-0 20.Bxc5 Rxc5 21.Nd4 Rc4

[21...Qxa2?! 22.f5 exf5 23.e6 Bxe6 *(23...fxe6 24.Rb7±)* 24.Nxe6 Rxc2 25.Nf4± *(25.Nxf8? Rxg2+ 26.Kh1 Rxh2+ 27.Kg1 Qg2#)*]

22.Rb7 Bc8 23.Rb2 Qc5 24.Rd1 Bd7 25.h3 h6 26.Kh2 Bb5 27.Rd2 Rc3 28.Qf2 Ba4

[28...Qe7!?]

29.f5 exf5 30.Qxf5 Qc7 31.Rb4 -1.00/26

[31.Rd3!= -0.20/23 keeps the balance.]

31...Re8!∓ 32.Re2 -1.61/24

[32.Rxa4? Rxe5 33.Qf2 *(33.Qf4? g5-+)* 33...Re2+ 34.Kg1 Rxf2 35.Rxf2 Re3-+]

[32.Rd3∓ -0.62/24 Rxd3 *(32...Rxe5 33.Rxc3 Qxc3 34.Qxe5∓)* 33.cxd3]

32...Bd7-+ 33.Qf4 f6 34.Nf3 Bb5!

[34...Rxc2 35.Rxc2 Qxc2 36.exf6±]

35.Re1 Rxc2 -0.94/21

[35...fxe5-+ -1.96/24 and Black stays clearly on top. 36.Rxe5 Rxe5 *(36...Rxc2 37.Rxe8+ Bxe8 38.Qxc7∓)* 37.Nxe5 Rxc2]

36.Qg3 -4.74/22

[36.exf6∓ -0.94/21 was the crucial defense. Rxe1 *(36...gxf6? 37.Qxc7 Rxc7 38.Rxb5+-* Remove Defender*)* 37.Nxe1 Qxf4+ 38.Rxf4 Rxa2 39.Rf5]

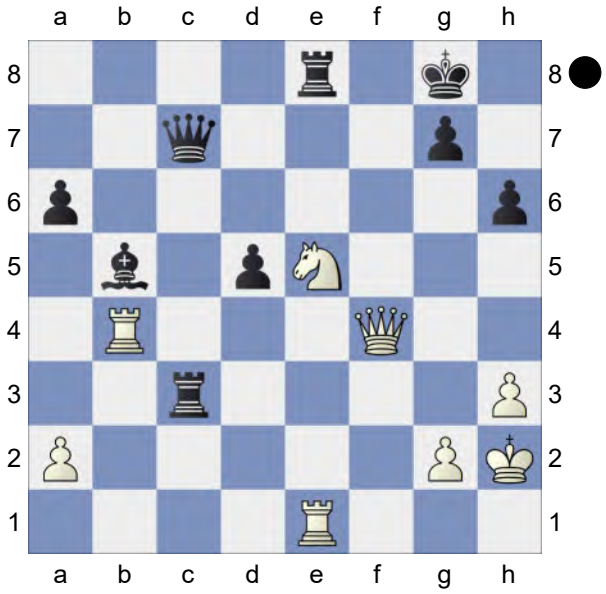
36...fxe5

[36...Rxa2 37.Rf4∓]

37.Nxe5 Rc3

[37...Rxa2? 38.Rd4-+]

38.Qf4



Rc4 39.Rxc4 dxc4

[39...Bxc4? 40.a3-+]

40.Qd4 -6.85/23

[⌓40.a4 -4.34/24 Bxa4 41.Re4]

40...Rd8? -2.48/24

[40...c3 -6.85/23 41.Qd5+ Kh7 42.Qe4+ Kh8]

41.Qc3 Rd3 42.Qc2 Rd5!

[42...c3 43.a4 Bc4 44.Kh1=]

43.Qc3 Rd3? 0.01/23

[43...Rd7-+ -2.58/21 44.a4 Bxa4 45.Qxc4+ Qxc4 46.Nxc4 Rd1 47.Rxd1 Bxd1]

44.Qc2!= Black keeps a firm grip on the game. **44...Qd6** -0.50/21

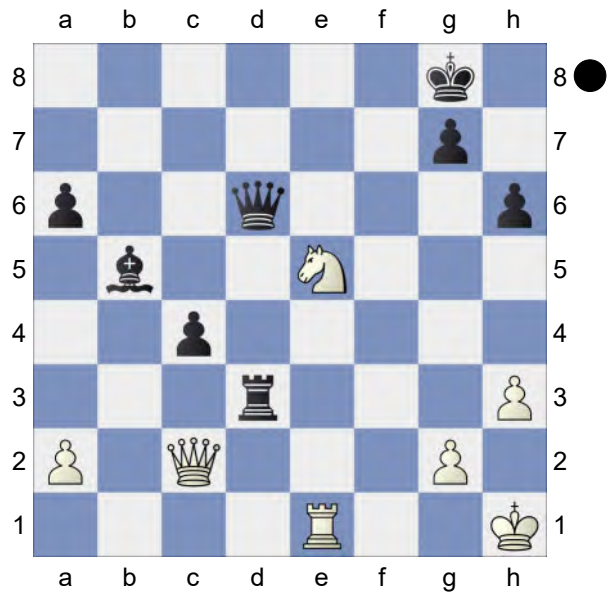
[44...c3?! 45.a4 Bc4 46.Kh1=]

[Black should try 44...Rd4!∓ -1.14/22 and ...c3 should not be overlooked 45.a4 Be8]

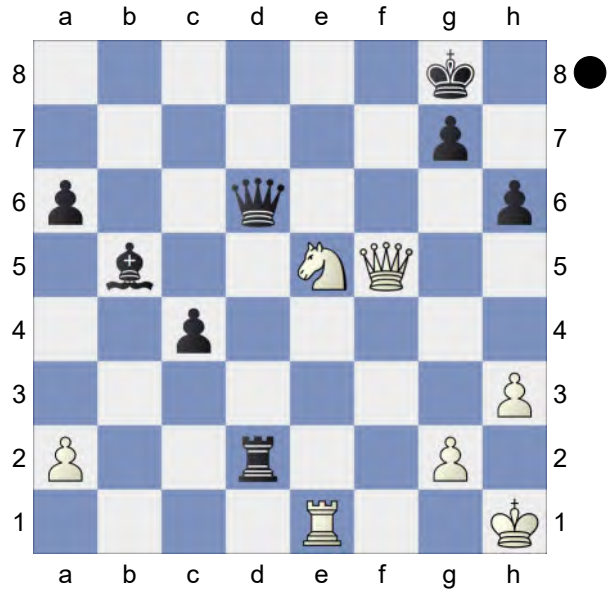
45.Kh1 -1.61/25

[White should play 45.Qf2!∓ -0.50/21]

(Diagram)

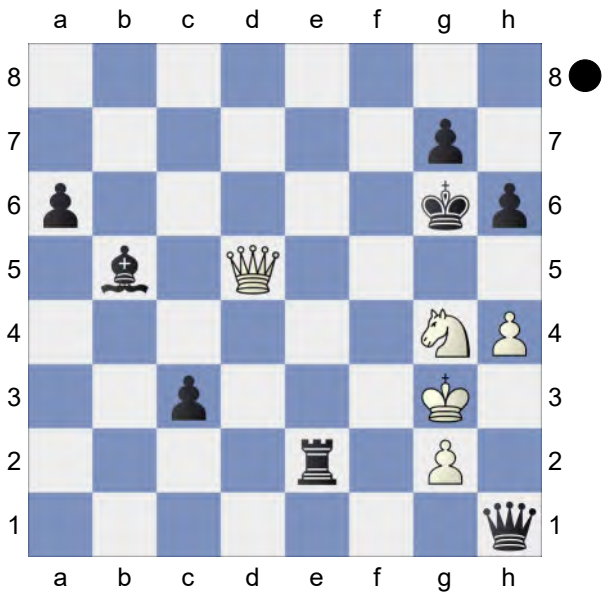


45...Rd2!-+ Skewer **46.Qf5**



Qf6 Active counter play!
[46...Rxa2 47.Qf7+ Kh7 *(47...Kh8 48.Ng6+ Kh7 49.Ne7±)* 48.Qf5+ Kg8 49.Ng6=]
47.Qg4 -2.71/25
[47.Qc8+∓ -1.25/23 was called for. Rd8 48.Qc5]
47...Rxa2→ White is in trouble. **48.Qd4** -5.78/25
[48.Ng6 -1.86/24 Kh7 49.Nh4]
48...Rf2 49.Qd5+? -6.51/23
[49.Kg1 -2.97/23 Rf4 50.Qe3]
49...Kh7 50.Kg1 c3 51.Nf3 Rb2 52.Rc1 Qg6 53.Ne5 Qb6+
[53...Rd2 54.Qf3 Qe6 *(54...Qb6+? 55.Kh1∓)* 55.Qxc3∓]
54.Kh2 Qe3 (→ ...Qf4+) **55.h4** -36.12/27
[⌓55.Rxc3 -5.02/24 Qf4+ *(55...Qxc3 56.Qe4+ Kh8 57.Ng6+ Kg8 58.Qd5+ Kh7 59.Nf8+ Kh8 60.Ng6+ Kh7 61.Nf8+ Kh8 62.Ng6+ Kh7=)* 56.Rg3]
55...Qf4+
[55...Qxc1 56.Qe4+ Kg8 57.Qa8+=]
56.Kh3 Re2
[Inferior is 56...Qxc1 57.Qe4+ Kh8 58.Ng6+ Kg8 *(58...Kh7 59.Ne7+ Kh8 60.Qa8+)* 59.Qd5+ Kh7 60.Nf8+ Kh8 61.Ng6+ Kh7 62.Nf8+ Kh8 63.Ng6+ Kh7=]
57.Ng4 Qxc1 58.Nf6+ Kg6! (→ ...Qh1+) **59.Ng4 Qh1+** -16.71/5
[⌓59...Qf4 -#16/22 60.h5+ Kh7 61.Qf3 Qxf3+ 62.gxf3 c2 63.Kh4 c1Q *(63...c1R? 64.Kg3-+)* 64.Kg3 Bd7 *(64...Qg5* is a self mate. *65.Kh3 Qf4 66.Nf6+ Kh8 67.Ng4 Bd7 68.Kh4 Rh2#)* 65.Nxh6 Kxh6 *(65...Qg1+ 66.Kf4 Qh2+ 67.Kg5 gxh6+ 68.Kf6 Qf4#)* 66.Kh4 Qg5#]
60.Kg3

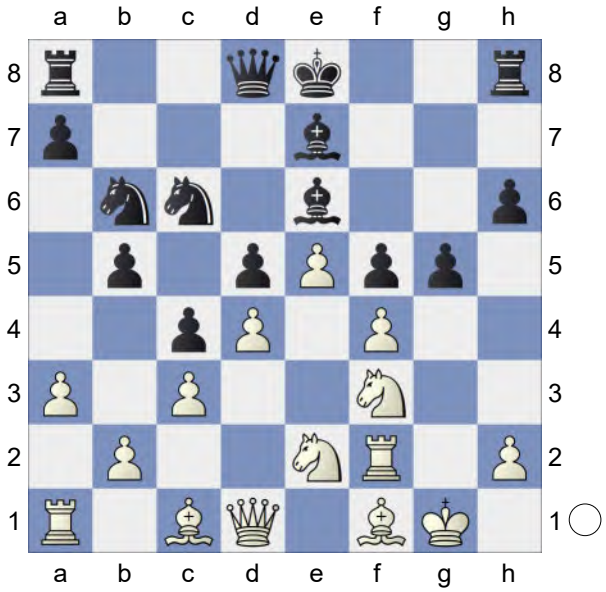
(Diagram)



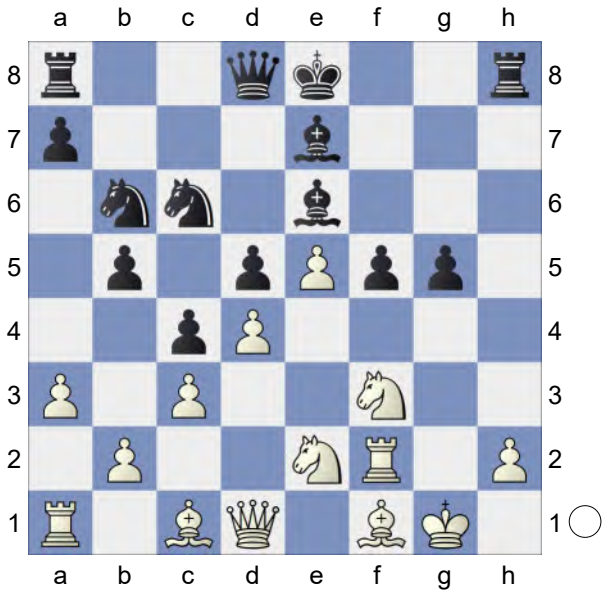
Weighted Error Value: White=0.76/ Black=0.41 **60...Qxg2+!!**
0-1

70 **C11**
□ **Peglau,Mirjam** **2769**
■ **Rogozenco,Dorian** **2748**
Policka (7) 24.06.2000
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 b5 8.a3 c4N**
[8...cxd4 9.Nxd4 Nxd4 10.cxd4 *(10.Qxd4 Bc5 11.Qd3 0-0 12.Nf3 f6 13.Nd4 Nxe5 14.fxe5 fxe5 15.Nc2 Bf2+ 16.Kd1 e4 17.Qe2 e5 18.Be3 Qh4 19.g3 Bxg3 20.hxg3 Qxh1 21.Kd2 a6 22.Bg2 Qh2 23.Rg1 Be6 24.Bf1 Qxe2+* 0-1 Vit spelar 7.Sgf3 (2610)-10.dc5 ♗c5 11. ♗d2 (2680) 108/128 Bursa 2010 *)* 10...b4 11.a4 *(11.axb4 Bxb4+ 12.Bd2 Qb6 13.Nf3 a5 14.Bd3 Ba6 15.Bxa6 Rxa6 16.0-0 0-0 17.Ra4 Bxd2 18.Qxd2 Rb8 19.Rfa1* Situru,N-Aymerich Martinez,J (ch) India 1988*)* 11...Qa5 12.Bd2 Be7 13.Nf3 0-0 14.Bb5 Vodicka,M-Leskovac,N 3rd Chess 2015 Stavanger NOR]
9.Nf3 Nb6 10.g4 f5 White is slightly better. **11.gxf5 exf5 12.Bg2 Be7 13.0-0 h6 14.Rf2 Be6 15.Bf1 g5** 1.59/21
[15...g6= 0.19/21]



16.fxg5!± hxg5



17.h4! g4

[17...gxh4 18.Bh3]
18.Ng5 Bc8 3.46/20
[18...Qd7 1.79/20 is a better defense. 19.Ng3 Bxg5 *(19...0-0-0? 20.Nxe6 Qxe6 21.Nxf5+-)* 20.Bxg5 Qh7]
19.Rh2 a5 20.Ng3 Ra6 21.Be3 Na4 22.Qc2 Rf8 23.Rf2 Qd7 5.70/17
[23...Bxg5 3.79/17 keeps fighting. 24.Bxg5 Qd7]
24.e6+- White is clearly winning.
24...Qc7 25.Bf4
[Weaker is 25.Nxf5 Rxf5+-]
25...Bd6 26.Bxd6 Qxd6 27.Nxf5 Weighted Error Value: White=0.12 (very precise) /Black=0.58
1-0

71 **C11**
□ **Anand,Viswanathan** **2769**
■ **Shirov,Alexei** **2751**
Frankfurt (rapid) 79/256 2000
[Anand,Viswanathan, MH]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4** Anand Anand **1...e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2** Anand: 'Shirov and I continue where we left off from Leon. This manoeuvre is basically designed to keep the center intact - White meets c5 with c3 and f6 with f4. It is something Shirov himself has used on various occasions.' **5...c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 Qb6** Neil McDonald: 'In their previous encounter, Shirov had played'
[7...b5 here and fallen into a fatal bind on the queenside- see Anand-Shirov. And two rounds before this game, Anand had beaten Morozevich after 7...b5- see Anand-Morozevich. Therefore it is no wonder that this time Shirov decides to play a different, more aggressive move. Alas, the result is no better. Neil McDonald: 'here and fallen into a fatal bind on the queenside- see Anand-Shirov. And two rounds before this game, Anand had beaten Morozevich after 7...b5- see Anand-Morozevich. Therefore it is no wonder that this time Shirov decides to play a different, more aggressive move. Alas, the result is no better.']
8.Nf3 Be7
[8...cxd4 9.cxd4 Bb4+]
9.a3 Neil McDonald: 'White diverges from'
[9.g3 a5 10.h4 0.08/21 *(10.Bh3± 0.49/21* was preferrable.*)* 10...a4 11.Bh3 etc. as in Lalic-Speelman, Hastings 2000. As will be seen, Anand has come up with a new idea- he wants to keep the g3 square free for his pieces to use as a base for an attack on Black's king. This works brilliantly in the game. Neil McDonald: 'etc. as in Lalic-Speelman, Hastings 2000. As will be seen, Anand has come up with a new idea- he wants to keep the g3 square free for his pieces to use as a base for an attack on Black's king. This works brilliantly in the game.']
9...0-0
[Instead 9...f6 -this reduces White's options-for example, if you look at the Bologan-Gurevich extract in the next note it would have made Nexd4 a less attractive response to cxd4- Neil McDonald: '-this reduces White's options-for example, if you look at the Bologan-Gurevich extract in the next note it would have made Nexd4 a less attractive response to cxd4-' 10.b4 cxd4 11.cxd4 0-0! 12.Rb1 a5

13.b5 Black should prevent Qc2. a4 was Shirov-Gurevich, Munich 1993, and now Shirov recommends 14.exf6 Nxf6 15.Nc3 Dodges Ne4 Nd8 16.Bd3! Against Ne4 Nf7 with unclear play.]

10.h4 0.00/23 Anand: '10.b4 is also possible, but if you want to attack the black king, h4 and Rh3 can't be wrong.' 10.b4 is also possible, but if you want to attack the black king, h4 and Rh3 can't be wrong. Neil McDonald: '!?' '!?' '!?'

[Also interesting is 10.b4 when the game Bologan-Gurevich, Frankfurt 2000 went cxd4 11.Nexd4! Nxd4 12.cxd4 f6 White soon gains a dangerous attack after this. *(Sounder was 12...f5)* 13.Bd3 -0.04/24 *(13.h4± 0.54/23)* 13...fxe5!= 14.fxe5 h4 would now be deadly. a5 15.b5 Black must now prevent Be3. a4? 2.06/20 *(15...Rxf3!± 0.43/20 16.gxf3 Bh4+ 17.Ke2 Nxe5)* 16.h4!+- Kh8 3.04/19 *(⌓16...Qa5+ 1.80/18 17.Bd2 Qb6)* 17.Be3 Qa5+ 18.Ke2 Nb6? 3.85/22 *(18...Qc7 2.26/20 19.Qc1 Qxc1 20.Rhxc1 Re8)* 19.Bd2!+- Qa7 20.Bg5! Rf7 21.Qb1 Bd7 22.Bxh7 Bxb5+? 4.14/23 and now rather than Neil McDonald: 'and now rather than' *(22...Raf8 2.57/21 23.Bg6 Rxf3 24.gxf3 Nc4)* 23.Kf2? 0.61/20 White could win with *(23.Qxb5 Kxh7 24.Bxe7 Rxe7 25.Ng5+ Kg8 26.Qb1* Threatening mate with Qh7+. *Qa6+ 27.Ke1* Qh7+ would kill now. *Qa5+ 28.Kd1* etc.*; 23.Qxb5+-* 4.14/23 *Kxh7 24.Bxe7 Rxe7 25.Qb1+ Kg8 26.Ng5 Qa6+ 27.Ke1 Qa5+ 28.Kd1)*]

[10.b4!± 0.36/23]

10...f6?! Anand,Viswanathan: '?!' Neil McDonald: 'Anand,V: '?!"

[10...Na5 1.02/20 10...a5 -0.19 11.b4 cxb4 12.axb4 Nc4]

11.Rh3 Anand: 'Suddenly, Black has finished all the easy developing moves. Bareev once came up with 11...a5 with the idea Qa7 and b5, which seems very reasonable.' Suddenly, Black has finished all the easy developing moves. Bareev once came up with 11...a5 with the idea Qa7 and b5, which seems very reasonable. Neil McDonald: '!' '!' '!' Neil McDonald: 'All according to plan.' '!' Neil McDonald: 'All according to plan.'

11...Na5N 0.59/20 Anand: 'I think this is a mistake since it takes the pressure off d4 completely' I think this is a mistake since it takes the pressure off d4 completely Neil McDonald: '?' '?' '?' Neil McDonald: 'After White's response Black is unable to put any pressure on d4. This means that Anand can build up his attack on the kingside without any distractions, as Shirov's attempted counterplay on the queenside is too slow. It was better to play' Anand, Viswanathan: 'N' Neil McDonald: 'After White's response Black is unable to put any pressure on d4. This means that Anand can build up his attack on the kingside without any distractions, as Shirov's attempted counterplay on the queenside is too slow. It was better to play Anand,V: 'N'' Neil McDonald: 'After White's response Black is unable to put any pressure on d4. This means that Anand can build up his attack on the kingside without any distractions, as Shirov's attempted counterplay on the queenside is too slow. It was better to play'

[11...a5 Ü 72/(285) 12.b3 Qd8 13.Ng3 h6 14.Be3 f5 15.Bd3 cxd4 16.cxd4 Nb6 17.Nh5 Qe8 18.Nh2

g6 19.Nf6+ Bxf6 20.exf6 Nd7 21.h5 Nxf6 22.hxg6 Qxg6 23.g4 Nxg4 24.Nxg4 Qxg4 25.Qxg4+ fxg4 26.Rxh6 Ne7 ½-½ 6.Nb3 Bb4 7.Bg5 (2620)-10.dc5 Bc5 11.Bd2 (2675) Plzen KB op-A U18 1997 (3.1)]
[11...cxd4 0.39/19 11...a5 0.00 12.cxd4 Na5 -Shipov.]
[11...a5= 0.00/20]
12.b4± Neil McDonald: '!' '!' '!' '!'
12...cxb4 13.axb4 Nc4 Neil McDonald: 'The knight looks excellent on this square, but what exactly does it do?' Neil McDonald: 'The knight looks excellent on this square, but what exactly does it do?' **14.Ng3N**
[14.h5 fxe5 15.fxe5 Ndxe5 16.dxe5 Nxe5 17.Nxe5 Qf2+ 18.Kd2 3. e4!? - French tranposition The Jobava System Theory 11-13 (3... Bb4, 2...]
14...a5? 1.15/20 Anand,Viswanathan: '?' Neil McDonald: 'Anand,V: '?"
[Anand: 'Perhaps Black should already consider...' 14...fxe5!? 15.fxe5 Ndxe5 16.dxe5 Nxe5± Anand: 'It may not be enough for a piece, but Black will have lots of play and probably Shirov would have enjoyed this kind of position more!']
[14...fxe5!= 0.22/19 keeps the balance. 15.fxe5 Ndxe5 16.dxe5 Nxe5]
15.Bd3± f5 1.58/22
[Anand: 'Now it's too late for...' 15...fxe5? 1.66/19 15...h6 0.80 16.Bxh7+! '!' Kxh7? 4.51/20 *(16...Kh8* 1.98/20 *)* 17.Ng5+!+- Bxg5 *(17...Kg8 18.Qh5 Nf6* Repels Qh7+ *19.Qg6* Δ ♘h5+- Anand: 'There seems to be no defence against Nh5'. White wants to mate with Nh5. *Qc7 20.Nh5 Bd8 21.fxe5+-)* 18.hxg5+ Kg8 19.Qh5+-]
[White also has a decisive attack after Neil McDonald: 'White also has a decisive attack after' 15...Rf7 16.Bxh7+! Kxh7 17.Ng5+!
A) Or 17...fxg5? #16/12 17...Kg8 3. 17 18.hxg5+ Kg8 19.Qh5 Rf5 20.Nxf5 7.92/18 *(⌓20.Qh8+* #7/17 *Kf7 21.g6+ Kxg6 22.Nxf5 Bh4+ 23.Rxh4 Nf6 24.Qxg7+ Kxf5 25.Qxf6+ Ke4 26.Qg6#)* 20...exf5+- 21.g6;
B) 17...Kg8 18.Qh5 White threatens Qh7+ and mate. g6 19.Qxg6+ Rg7 20.Qe8+ Bf8? 5.30/19 *(20...Nf8 21.Nh5!; 20...Nf8* 2.79/21 *)* 21.Nh5!+- fxg5 22.hxg5 Intending g6 and mate. Rf7 *(22...Qc6 23.Nxg7 Kxg7 24.Qh5)* 23.g6! Re7 24.Nf6+ Nxf6 25.exf6 Rxe8 26.f7+ Kg7 27.fxe8Q with a quick mate.]
[Better is 15...h6 0.98/19]
16.Ng5! → Anand,Viswanathan: '±' Anand,Viswanathan: ' →' Neil McDonald: 'Anand,V: ' ±' Anand,V: ' →" **16...Rd8** 2.59/19
[16...Bxg5 17.hxg5 '→'
A) 17...Rf7? 4.43/19 17...g6 1.47 18.Rxh7 Kxh7 6.76/20 *(⌓18...g6* 4.25/18 *)* 19.Qh5+ Kg8 20.g6+-;
B) 17...g6 18.Nh5! Rf7 19.Nf6+±;
C) ⌓17...g6 1.61/21 18.Nh5 a4 19.Nf6+ Nxf6 20.gxf6 Qc6;
D) 17...Rd8 2.15/22 18.Nh5 Δ ♘ f6 Anand: ' Δ Nf6' *(18.Qh5* 1.21/18 18.b5 2.05 *Nf8)*]
[⌓16...Bxg5 1.62/22 17.hxg5 Rd8]
17.Qh5+- Bxg5 18.Qxg5 Neil McDonald: 'The g7 square is a much big target than h7. Totally wrong would be' [%draw full,g7] [%draw arrow, g5,g7,green] Anand,Viswanathan: '!'

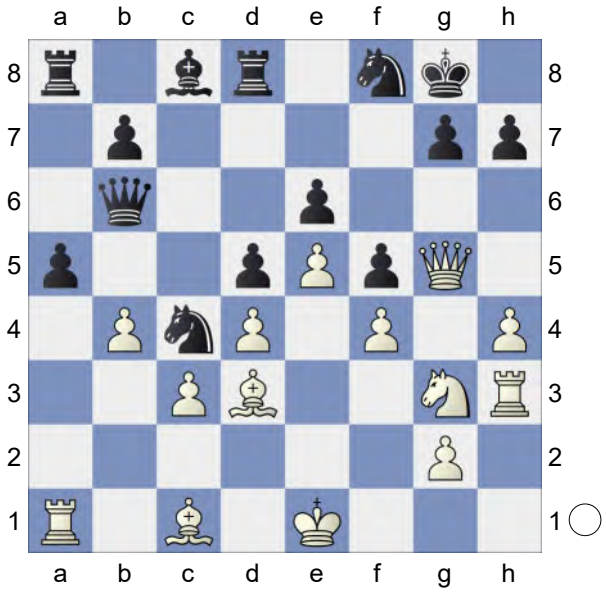
Neil McDonald: 'The g7 square is a much big target than h7. Totally wrong would be [%draw full,g7] [%draw arrow, g5,g7,green]' Neil McDonald: 'The g7 square is a much big target than h7. Totally wrong would be'

[18.hxg5 0.94/18 18.Qxg5 2.33 Neil McDonald: '?' '?' '?' Nf8]

[Not 18.hxg5 Nf8±]

18...Rf8

[18...Nf8 4.03/20 18...Rf8 2.52

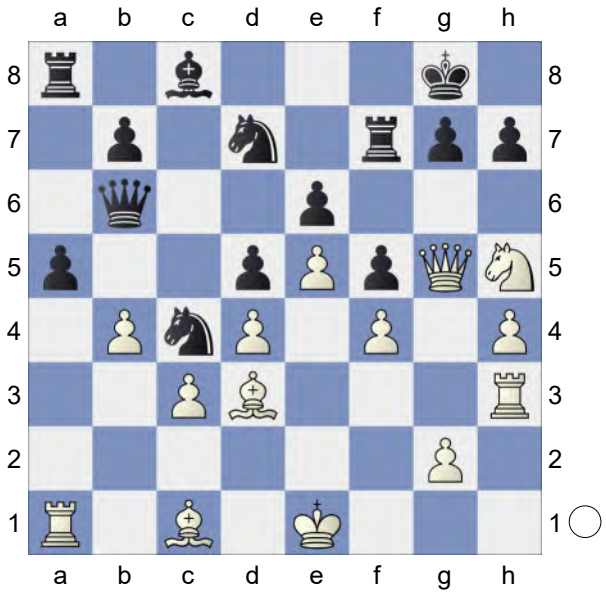


19.Nh5! Rd7 20.Nf6++-]

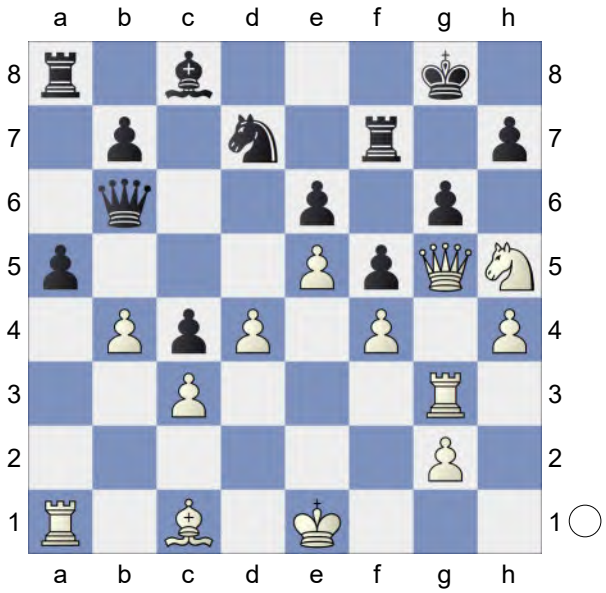
19.Nh5→ White is out for blood. **19...Rf7** 4.76/23

[19...g6 2.34/21 20.Ng3 Qd8]

(Diagram)



20.Rg3! g6 21.Bxc4! <xml✕:en>White eliminates Black's only active piece.</:en✕/xml> Anand,Viswanathan: '!' Neil McDonald: 'Anand,V: '!' '!' <xml✕:en>White eliminates Black's only active piece.</:en✕/xml>' **21...dxc4**



Black is weak on the dark squares **22.b5!** [Δ ♗a3 ×f8] Anand: 'Now the bishop enters the game as well.' Now the bishop enters the game as well. Neil McDonald: 'This fine move clears the way for the bishop to join in the attack.' <xml✕:en>This resolves the tension on

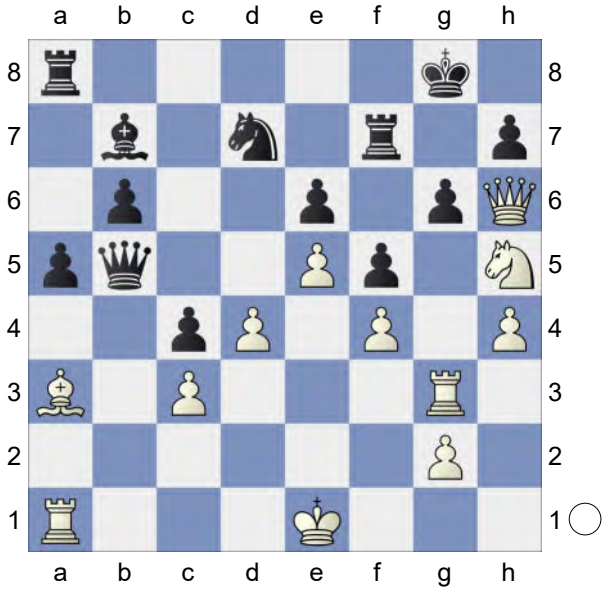
the queenside and allows White to bring the bishop into attack.</:en ✕/xml> Anand,Viswanathan: '!' Anand, Viswanathan: '[Δ ♗a3 ×f8]' Neil McDonald: 'This fine move clears the way for the bishop to join in the attack. Anand,V: '[Δ ♗a3 ×f8]' <xml ✕:en>This resolves the tension on the queenside and allows White to bring the bishop into attack.</:en ✕/xml>' Neil McDonald: 'This fine move clears the way for the bishop to join in the attack.'. Prevents Qc6. **22...Qxb5**

[22...Kh8 23.Ba3+- Δ ♕h6 Anand,V: 'Δ ♕b6']

[22...Nf8 23.Ba3 Strongly threatening Nf6+. Bd7 24.Nf6+ Kh8 25.h5+-]

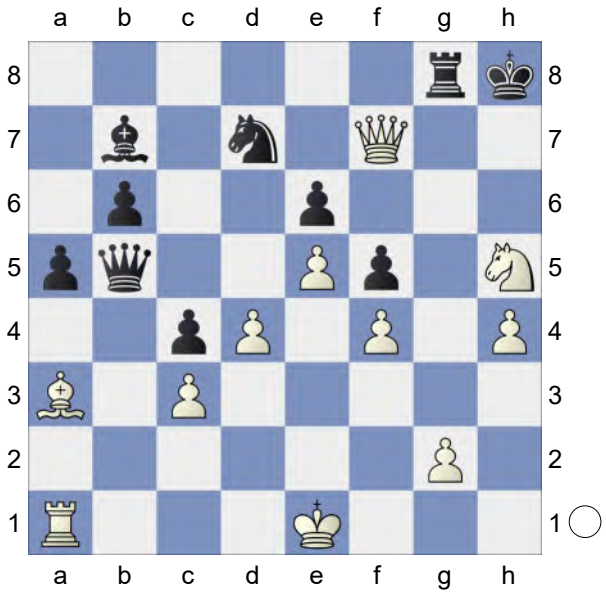
23.Ba3 b6 24.Qh6 Bb7 #9/15

[24...Qc6+- 5.17/22 25.Rxg6+ hxg6]



25.Rxg6+! '!'. Demolition. White mates. **25...hxg6 26.Qxg6+ Kh8 27.Qxf7 Rg8**

(Diagram)



Anand: 'Of course Nf6 wins, but I saw something more elegant:' **28.Bf8!** Anand: 'This victory clinched the tournament for me as it gave me a 2 point lead ahead of the last round.'. Back Rank. Weighted Error Value: White=0.09 (flawless) /Black=0.77

1-0

72	**C11**
□ **Anand,V..**	**2769**
■ **Morozevich,Alexander**	**2748**
Fujitsu-Siemens Giants (7)	24.06.2000

[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 b5 8.a3 c4N**

[8...cxd4 9.Nxd4 Nxd4 10.cxd4 *(10.Qxd4 Bc5 11.Qd3 0-0 12.Nf3 f6 13.Nd4 Nxe5 14.fxe5 fxe5 15.Nc2 Bf2+ 16.Kd1 e4 17.Qe2 e5 18.Be3 Qh4 19.g3 Bxg3 20.hxg3 Qxh1 21.Kd2 a6 22.Bg2 Qh2 23.Rg1 Be6 24.Bf1 Qxe2+* 0-1 Vit spelar 7.Sgf3 (2610)-10.dc5

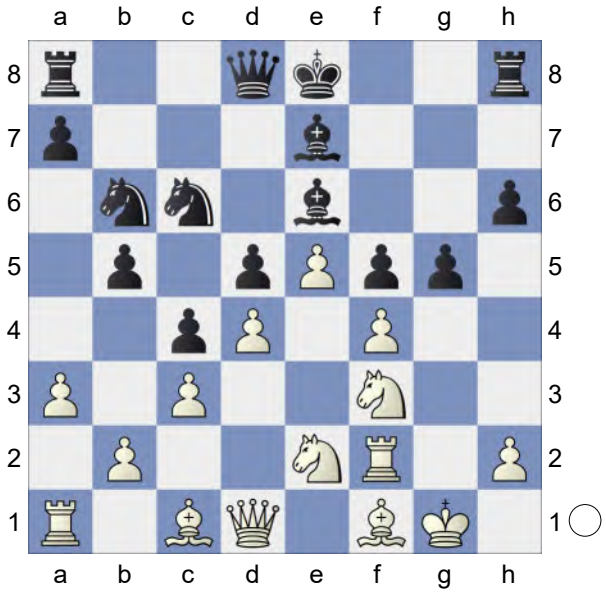
♗c5 11. ♗d2 (2680) 108/128 Bursa 2010 *)* 10...b4 11.a4 *(11.axb4 Bxb4+ 12.Bd2 Qb6 13.Nf3 a5 14.Bd3 Ba6 15.Bxa6 Rxa6 16.0-0 0-0 17.Ra4 Bxd2 18.Qxd2 Rb8 19.Rfa1* Situru,N-Aymerich Martinez,J (ch) India 1988*)* 11...Qa5 12.Bd2 Be7 13.Nf3 0-0 14.Bb5 Vodicka,M-Leskovac,N 3rd Chess 2015 Stavanger NOR]

9.Nf3 Nb6 10.g4 f5 1.06/21

[10...h5± 0.65/22]

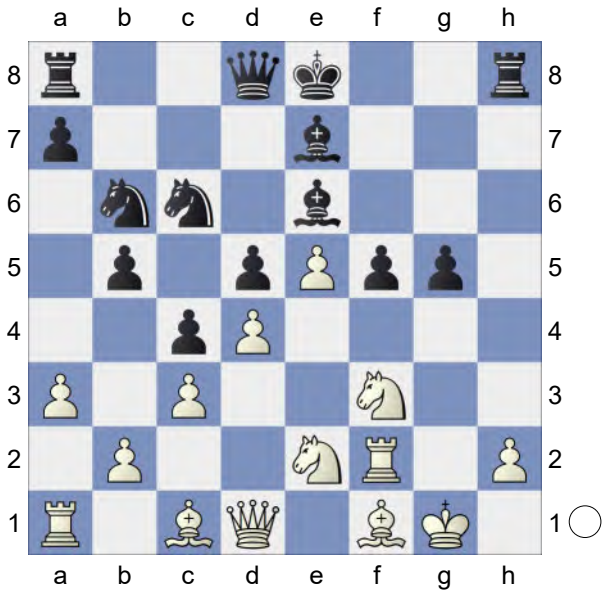
11.gxf5± exf5 12.Bg2 Be7 13.0-0 h6 14.Rf2 Be6 15.Bf1 g5 1.56/21

[15...Na5= 0.13/21 remains equal.]



16.fxg5! hxg5

(Diagram)



17.h4! g4

[17...gxh4 18.Nf4]

18.Ng5 Bc8 3.66/22

[18...Qd7 1.74/21 19.Ng3 Bxg5 *(19...0-0-0? 20.Nxe6 Bxh4 21.Nxd8+-)* 20.Bxg5 Nc8]

19.Rh2 a5 20.Ng3 Ra6 4.26/22

[20...Bxg5 2.91/20 was necessary. 21.Bxg5 Qc7]

21.Be3 Na4 22.Qc2 Rf8 23.Rf2 Qd7 5.73/18

[23...Bxg5 3.82/18 keeps fighting. 24.Bxg5 Ne7]

24.e6+- White is clearly winning.

24...Qc7 25.Bf4 Bd6 26.Bxd6 Qxd6 27.Nxf5 Weighted Error Value: White=0.19 (very precise) /Black=0.72

1-0

73 **C11**

□ **Firouzja,Alireza** **2766**

■ **Aronian,L.** **2742**

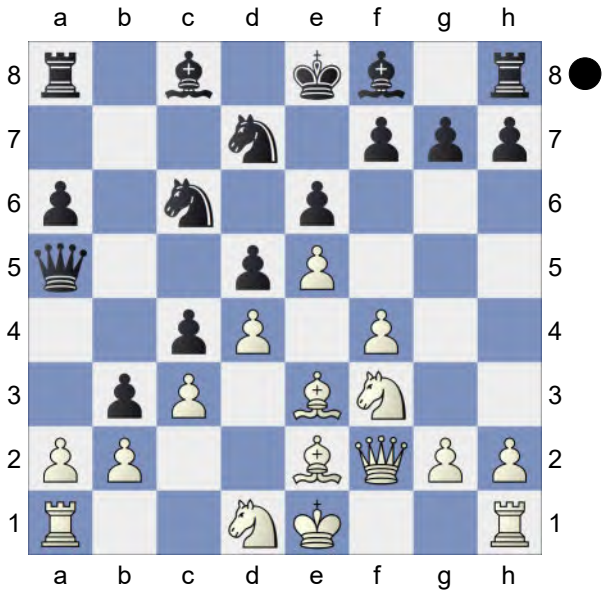
FIDE World Rapid Team (7.1) 12.06.2025

[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3**

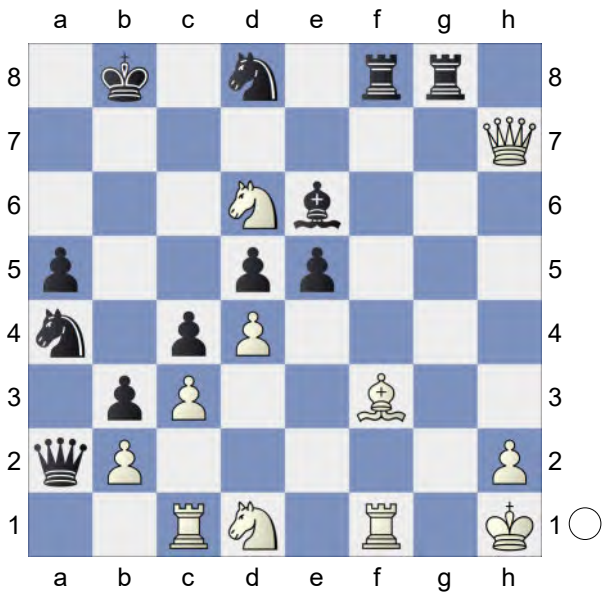
Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.Qd2 b5 9.Qf2 Qa5N
[9...Qb6 10.Bd3 cxd4 *(10...Rb8 11.0-0 cxd4 12.Nxd4 Nxd4 13.Bxd4 Qxd4 14.Qxd4 Bc5 15.Ne2 f6 16.Rf2 Bxd4 17.Nxd4 fxe5 18.Nc6 Rb7 19.Nxe5 Nxe5 20.fxe5 Rf7 21.a4 Rxf2 22.Kxf2 0-0+ 23.Ke3 Bd7 24.a5 Rc8 25.Ra3* 0-1 Robson, R (2680)-Lenderman,A (2623) Las Vegas Millionaire op 2015 (7) *b4 26.Rb3 Rc5 27.Rxb4 Rxa5 28.Rb8+ Kf7 29.Rb7 Ke8 30.Bxh7 Ra4 31.Bd3 Rh4 32.h3 a5 33.c3 g5 34.Ra7 g4 35.Rxa5 gxh3 36.gxh3 Bc6 37.Bg6+ Kd8 38.Ra7 d4+ 39.cxd4 Rxh3+ 40.Kd2* 1-0 Marjanovic,S (2451)-Itkis,B (2462) Ciocaltea Memorial 1999 (9)*)* 11.Nxd4 Bc5 *(11...Nxd4 12.Bxd4 Bc5 13.Ne2 Bxd4 14.Nxd4 Nc5 15.0-0 0-0 16.b4 Ne4 17.Bxe4 dxe4 18.Nb3 Qxf2+ 19.Kxf2 Bb7* C 11/14 2000*)* 12.Nce2 b4 13.0-0 f6 14.Kh1 0-0 15.exf6 Rxf6 16.Nxc6 Bxe3 17.Qg3 Bb7 18.Ne5 Nxe5 19.fxe5 Bf2 20.Qg4 Rh6 21.Nf4 Rf8 22.Nh5 Rf7 23.Nf6+ Kh8 24.Nxh7 1-0 Szabo,I (2503)-Svensson,E (2397) Wheeling 115/15 2012 (9)]
10.Bd3
[10.dxc5 b4 11.Ne2 b3+ 12.Nc3 Nxc5∓]
10...b4 11.Nd1 c4 The position is equal. **12.Be2**
[12.Bf1 keeps more tension. b3+ 13.Bd2 Nb4 14.cxb3 Nc2+ 15.Ke2]
12...b3+! 13.c3? -1.92/20
[13.Bd2= 0.09/20 Qxa2 14.Rc1 *(14.Rxa2 bxa2 15.f5 Nb6∓)*]

(Diagram)

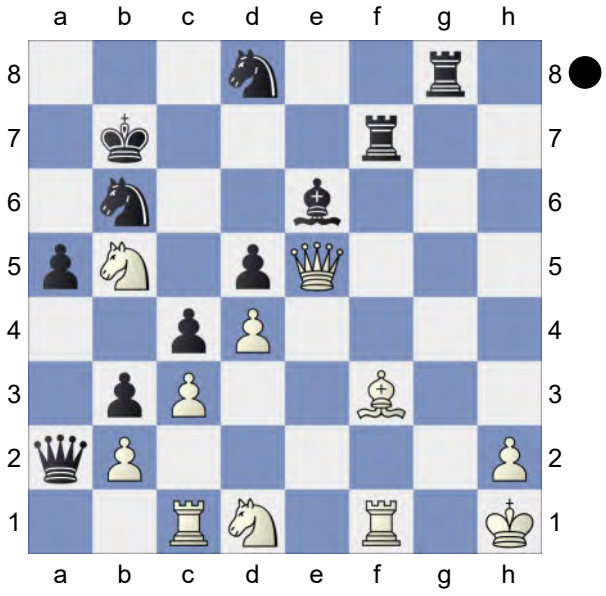


13...Qxa2!-+ Promotion **14.Rc1 Nb6** -1.26/17
[14...a5-+ -1.86/20 15.f5 exf5]
15.0-0 -1.97/18
[15.f5∓ -1.26/17]
15...a5! 16.f5 -2.15/19
[16.Ng5∓ -1.36/16 was necessary.]
16...exf5 17.Nh4 -2.32/19
[17.g4∓ -0.85/16]
17...g6 18.g4 Be6
[18...fxg4? 19.Qxf7+ *(19.Qf6 Be6+-)* 19...Kd8 20.Qf6+ Kc7 21.Qxh8+-]
19.gxf5 gxf5 20.Nxf5 Rg8+ 21.Kh1 0-0-0? -0.69/20
[21...Kd7-+ -2.20/19 22.Bh5 a4]
22.Bh6!∓ Na4? 1.05/19
[22...Kb8∓ -1.03/19 23.Bxf8 Rdxf8]
23.Bxf8 -0.01/17
[23.Bh5!± 1.05/19]
23...Rdxf8= 24.Nd6+ Kb8 25.Bf3 f6 26.Qh4 fxe5 27.Qxh7 Nd8
[27...Nxb2 28.Qb7#]

(Diagram)



Repels Qb7+ **28.Qe7** -0.01/20
Dancing on a razor blade.
[White should play 28.Nb5!± 0.74/23 Intending Qa7+ and mate. Nf7 *(28...Nxb2 29.Qc7+ Ka8 30.Qa7#)* 29.dxe5]
28...Nb6!
[28...Nxb2 29.Nb5 *(29.Rf2? Qa3-+)* 29...Rf7 30.Qd6+ Kc8 31.Rf2+-]
29.Nb5! Rf7⇄ Black is not holding back
30.Qd6+ Kb7 31.Qxe5 -4.52/22
[31.Qc5= 0.01/24]

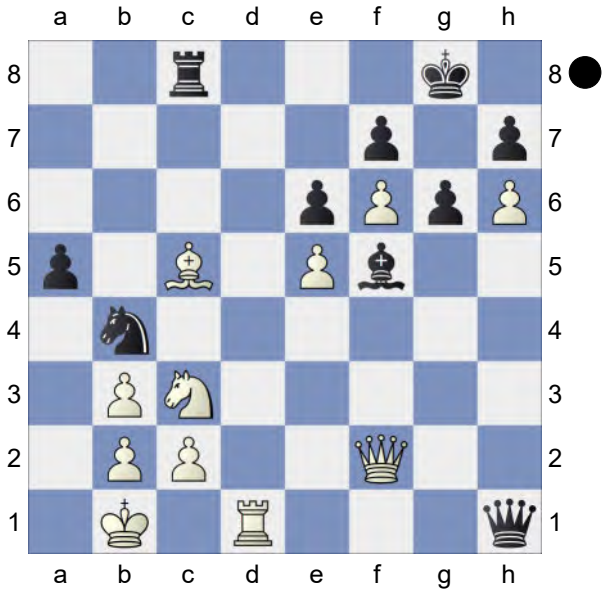


31...Rd7? 0.01/18
[31...Kc6!-+ -4.52/22 32.Nd6 Nd7 33.Nxf7 Nxe5 34.Nxe5+ Kd6]
32.Na3 -2.10/19
[32.Ne3!= 0.01/18 and White is okay. Rf8 *(32...Qxb2 33.Rb1=)* 33.Nd6+ Kc6 34.Nexc4 *(34.Ndxc4 Rxf3 35.Nxa5+ Qxa5=)* 34...Rxf3 35.Rxf3 Nxc4 36.Nxc4 dxc4 37.Rf6]
32...Rf8? -0.39/20
[32...Ka6-+ -2.10/19 33.Qe2 Re8]
33.Qe2∓ Rdf7 34.Bg2! Rxf1+ 35.Bxf1 Na4? 1.02/22
[35...Ka6∓ -0.98/18 stays on course. Threatens to win with ...Bg4!. 36.Bg2 Re8]
36.Bg2± Kc8? 4.57/21
[Better is 36...Ka6!± 0.36/18]
37.Nb5+- Hoping for Qe5. **37...Kd7?** 13.77/21
[37...Nb6 3.12/20 38.Qe5 Kb7 39.Qc7+ Ka6]
38.Qe5 Kc6 39.Qd6+ Kxb5 40.Qxf8 Nxb2 41.Qxd8 Kc6 Weighted Error Value: White=0.44/Black=1.24 **42.Ne3** 17.76/25
[⌓42.Qe8+ #18/26 Bd7 43.Qa8+ *(43.Bxd5+ Kc7+-)* 43...Kc7 44.Ne3 *(44.Qxd5 Nd3+-)* 44...Be6 45.Bxd5 *(45.Nxd5+ Bxd5 46.Qa7+ Kd8 47.Qb8+ Kd7 48.Qb5+ Ke7 49.Re1+ Kf6 50.Qxd5 Qb1)* 45...Bh3 46.Qb7+ *(46.Bxc4 Nxc4 47.Rg1 Bg2+ 48.Rxg2 Qa1+ 49.Rg1 Qxg1+ 50.Kxg1 Nxe3+-)* 46...Kd8 47.Qb6+ *(47.Bxc4 Nxc4 48.Rg1 Bg4+-; 47.Rg1 Qb1+-)* 47...Kd7 48.Qb7+ *(48.Nxc4 Nxc4 49.Qb7+ Kd8+-)* 48...Kd8]
1-0

74 **C11**
□ **Vachier Lagrave,Maxime** **2766**
■ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2791**
chess.com Speed 2021 (1.38) 29.11.2021
[Kitty Kat]

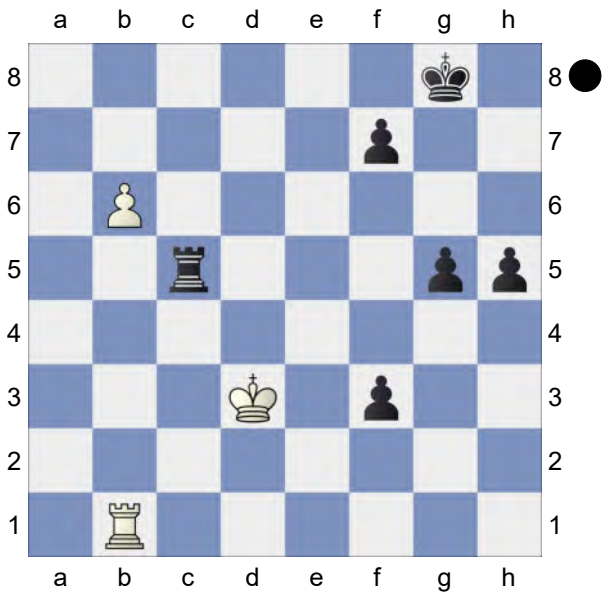
C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 This game was played in the eleventh round. I was on plus two and I needed to win to retain any chances for first place. **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Be7 8.Qd2 0-0 9.h4** 0.01/21
[9.dxc5± 0.48/21 is more appropriate. Nxc5 10.0-0-0]
9...a6 0.72/20
[9...cxd4= 0.01/21 10.Nxd4 Nxd4 *(10...Bxh4+? 11.Kd1∓)* 11.Bxd4 Nb8 *(11...Bxh4+ 12.Kd1=)*]
10.dxc5± Nxc5 11.0-0-0! White is slightly better. **11...b5 12.h5N** -0.31/23
[12.Bxc5± 0.67/22 Bxc5 13.Qd3]
[12.Bd3 b4 *(12...d4 13.Nxd4 Nxd3+ 14.Qxd3 Bb7 15.Nxc6 Bxc6 16.Bd4 Qc7 17.Ne4 Rac8 18.Ng5 g6 19.h5 Bxg5 20.fxg5 Bxg2 21.Rh2 Bd5 22.Kb1 Qc6 23.h6 Be4 24.Qc3 Qxc3 25.Bxc3 Rfd8 26.Rxd8+ Rxd8 27.Kc1* 2 Chapter 8-7...Be7 8.Qd2 00 / 9...Nxc5 French for White 2025*)* 13.Bxc5 Bxc5 14.Bxh7+ *(14.Na4 Ba7 15.Qe2 f5 16.g4 Ne7 17.Ng5 Qe8 18.b3 h6 19.Kb1 hxg5 20.hxg5 Ng6 21.Qf3 Bd7 22.Qh3 Kf7 23.gxf5 exf5 24.Bxf5 Bxf5 25.Qxf5+ Ke7 26.Qd3 Nxf4 27.Qxa6 Qd7 28.e6 Nxe6* 0-1 Deslandes,P (2828)-Petrovic,D (2638) Kaposvar 76/164 1999 *29.Qd3 Bf2 30.Rh7 Qa7 31.g6 Qd4 32.Qe2 Qe4 33.Qd2 Be3 34.Qe1 Rac8 35.Rd3 Bh6 36.Qd1 Rf2 37.Nb6 Rcxc2 38.Rxh6 Rb2+ 39.Ka1 Rxa2+ 40.Kb1 Rfb2+ 41.Kc1 Qf4+ 42.Qd2 Qc7+ 43.Qc3 Qxc3+* 0-1 Caruana,F (2828)-Nyzhnyk,I (2638) PRO League KO Stage 2019 rapid (2) *44.Rxc3 bxc3 45.Nxd5+ Kd6* 1-0 Caruana,F (2646)-Sasikiran,K (2711) Corus-B Wijk aan Zee 2009 (11)*)* 14...Kxh7 15.Ng5+ Kg8 16.Qe2 g6 12.f4 ♘b4 13. ♘d4_19503 (2479)-Bruaset,E (2325) 97/425 Villa Clara 2006]
12...b4 13.Ne2 -0.94/22
[13.Bxc5= 0.01/23 Bxc5 14.Na4]
13...Ne4 -0.05/20
[13...a5∓ -0.94/22]
14.Qe1= a5 15.Ng3 Qc7! 16.Bd3? -1.68/23
[16.Kb1!= -0.01/22]
16...Ba6? -0.14/23
[16...b3-+ -1.68/23 17.axb3 f5]
17.Bxe4 -1.08/22
[17.Nxe4= -0.14/23 Bxd3 18.Nf2]
17...dxe4 -0.20/19
[17...b3∓ -1.08/22 18.axb3 Nb4]
18.Nxe4 Rad8? 1.88/22
[18...b3∓ -0.40/22 keeps the upper hand. 19.axb3 Rfc8]
19.Qg3 1.16/24
[19.Qf2+- 1.88/22]
19...b3± 20.axb3 Nb4 2.73/23
[20...a4± 1.26/23]
21.Nc3+- Bb7? 4.56/21
[21...a4 1.86/21]
22.h6 2.32/23
[⌓22.f5 4.56/21]
22...g6 23.Qf2 Rc8 2.96/22
[⌓23...Nd5 1.67/20]
24.Kb1 1.37/22
[24.Bb6+- 2.96/22 Qc6 25.Rd2 *(25.Bxa5 Ra8+-)*]
24...Bc6? 3.72/21
[24...Nd5± 1.37/22 was necessary.]
25.Nd4 Qb7 26.f5 2.14/23

[⌓26.Nxc6 4.04/23 Rxc6 27.g3]
26...Bxg2 27.Rhg1 1.21/26
[27.f6+- 2.47/24 Bc5 28.Rh4]
27...Be4± 28.f6? 0.27/26
[28.fxe6 Rxc3 29.bxc3 Nxc2±]
[28.Nxe4+- 1.79/25 Qxe4 29.f6 *(29.fxe6 fxe6 30.Qe2 Bc5±)*]
28...Bc5= Hoping for ...Bxd4. Really sharp! This pair of bishops is nice.
29.Rd2 Bxd4 0.93/24
[29...Rfd8= 0.25/22 remains equal.]
30.Bxd4 0.01/20
[30.Nxe4!± 0.93/24 Rxc2 31.Bxd4 Qxe4 32.Rxc2 Nxc2 33.Qxc2 Qxd4 34.Re1]
30...Bf5! 31.Bc5 Rfd8 2.26/26
[31...Bxc2+!= -0.01/21 and Black is okay. 32.Rxc2 Nd3]
32.Rgd1?? -6.91/27
[32.Rxd8++- 2.26/26 Rxd8 33.Bxb4 axb4 34.Rd1]
32...Rxd2? -1.99/25
[32...Bxc2+ -6.91/27 33.Rxc2 Rxd1+ 34.Nxd1 Nxc2 35.Qxc2 Qb5]
33.Rxd2-+ Qh1+ -0.93/26
[33...Nxc2!-+ -1.80/26 34.Rxc2 Qxb3 Pin]
34.Rd1∓



Qxh6 -0.65/24
[34...Qc6!∓ -1.35/24 35.Rd6 *(35.Bxb4 axb4 36.Rd6 Qa8-+)* 35...Bxc2+ *(35...Qxc5? 36.Qxc5 Re8 37.Qxa5+-)* 36.Ka1 Qh1+ *(36...Qxc5 37.Qxc5 Re8 38.Qxa5 Bd3 39.Qxb4 Bf1 40.Qa5 Bg2 41.Rd8)* 37.Qg1 Qxh6]
35.Bxb4∓ axb4 36.Nb5 Qf8 -0.01/22
[36...Rxc2? 37.Rd8++-]
[36...Bxc2+? 37.Qxc2 Rf8 38.Nd6+-]
[36...Be4!∓ -0.40/26]
37.Nd4 -0.70/22
[37.Rd2= -0.01/22]
37...Qc5 -0.09/21
[37...Bg4!∓ -0.70/22 38.Re1 h5]
38.Rd2? -7.11/21
[38.Qe2= -0.09/21]
38...Qxe5-+ 39.Nxf5 exf5 Endgame KQR-KQR. Black is a pawn up.
[Worse is 39...gxf5 40.Qg2+]
40.Qh4 Qe3 41.Rd1 Prevents Qg1
41...h5 42.Qxb4 Qe2 43.Rc1 Qe5 44.Qh4 -6.42/22
[⌓44.Qe7 -4.00/18 Qd4 45.b4]
44...Rc6 45.Re1 Qxf6 46.Qxf6 Rxf6 KR-KR. Black is a pawn up. **47.b4 f4 48.c4 g5 49.b5** c5 is the strong threat.
49...f3 50.c5 Rf5 51.b4 Rf4
[51...f2 52.Rf1 g4 53.c6 Rxb5 54.Rxf2 Rxb4+ 55.Kc1-+]
52.Kc2 Rxb4 53.b6 Rc4+ 0.01/26
[Black should play 53...g4-+ -6.38/23 54.Kc3 f2]
54.Kd3= Rxc5 55.Rb1 -5.80/25
[55.Re8+= 0.01/25 Kg7 56.b7]

(Diagram)



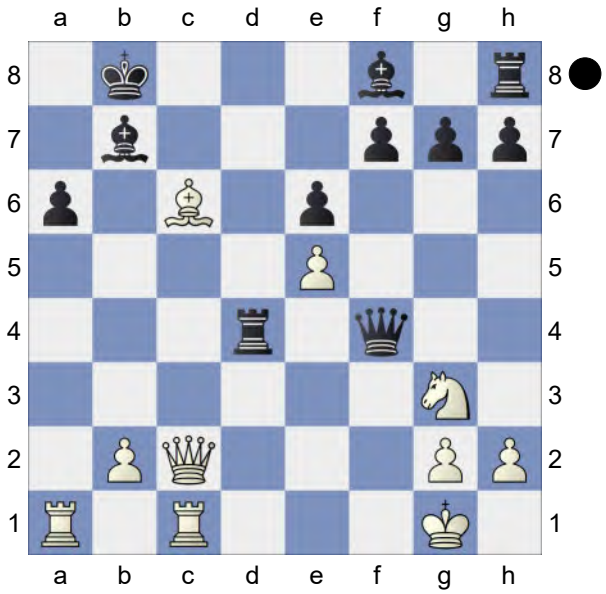
Repels Rb5 **55...Rc8!-+ 56.b7 Rb8 57.Ke3 g4 58.Kf4 f6 59.Kg3 Kg7 60.Rb4 Kg6 61.Rb5 f5 62.Kf4 f2 63.Rb6+ Kg7 64.Rb1 h4 65.Kxf5 g3** (→ ...g2) **66.Kg4** Weighted Error Value: White=0.93/Black=0.82 **66...g2** **0-1**

75 **C11**
□ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2766**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun Kumar** **2718**
Speed Chess Chess.com INT blitz (1.35)
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.Nc3 d5 3.d4 Nf6 4.e5 Ne4 5.Nxe4 dxe4 6.Bc4 a6 7.Ne2!** 0.65/25 White is more active. is more profitable than 7.a4 at the moment. scheint profitabler als 7.a4.
[7.a4± 1.02/23]
7...b5 8.Bb3 c5! Strongly threatening ... c4. **9.c3** White is better. **9...Bb7** 1.16/22
[9...cxd4± 0.65/24 10.cxd4 *(10.Nxd4 Nd7±; 10.Qxd4 Qc7=)* 10...Bb4+ 11.Nc3 Nc6]
10.0-0± Nc6 11.Be3 Qh4 2.15/24
[11...cxd4± 0.94/21 12.Nxd4 *(12.cxd4 Na5=)* 12...Nxe5]
[11...Be7 12.Ng3 h5 13.Nxh5 g6 14.Nf4 cxd4 15.cxd4 Na5 16.Bc2 Nc4 17.Qb1 Bg5 18.Bxe4 Bxf4 19.Bxf4 Qxd4 20.Bxb7 Qxf4 21.g3 Qh6 22.h4 Rb8 23.b3 Nxe5 24.Qe4 0-0 25.Bxa6 Qh5 26.Bb7 1-0 Filippov,L (2565)-N,N (2475) Parnu Keres Memorial op 2023 (2)]
12.Ng3N 0.42/22 New and interesting. Theoretisch interessant.
[Vorgänger: 12.a4! Rd8 13.axb5 axb5 14.Qc1 Be7 Against Bg5 15.Nf4 *(15.Bc2 0-0 16.Qb1 cxd4 17.cxd4 Nb4 18.Ra7 Rd7 19.Nc3 Rc8 20.Bxe4 Bxe4 21.Qxe4 Rxa7 22.d5 Qxe4 23.Nxe4 Ra2 24.d6 Bd8 25.Bg5 Bxg5 26.Nxg5 Rca8 27.f4 Ra1* 0-1 3.♕c2 ♘f6 4.♘f3_31752 (2483)-Schneider,A (2421) Santiago m Santiago de Chile 1997 (8) *)* 15...g5 16.Ne2! 0-0 17.f4 -0.01/20 *(17.Ng3± 1.25/23)* 17...exf3= 18.Rxf3
A) 18...cxd4!= -0.01/21 19.cxd4 *(19.Rh3 Qg4)* 19...Nxd4 20.Nxd4 Rxd4;
B) 18...Nxd4 0.98/27 19.cxd4± Bxf3 20.gxf3 Strongly threatening Ra7. cxd4 1-0 (53) McDonald,N (2415)-Webb,L (2297) England 2016]
[12.dxc5 Nxe5 13.h3 Rd8=]
[12.a4!+- 2.15/24]
[12.Qe1 Be7 13.a4 0-0 14.f4 exf3 15.gxf3 cxd4 16.cxd4 Qh5 17.Ng3 Qg6 18.Qf2 Nb4 19.Qg2 Qd3 20.Rae1 Qxb3 21.Nh5 g6 22.Bh6 Qd3 23.Rd1 Qf5 24.Ng3 Qc2 25.Rd2 Qb3 26.Ne4 Bxe4 0-1 Martinez,A (2327)-Schneider,A (2421) 85/256 Kallithea 2002 (7)]

12...0-0-0? 3.22/24
[Black should play 12...Rd8!± 0.42/22]
13.Qe2+- cxd4 14.cxd4 Nxd4 15.Bxd4 Rxd4 16.a4? -0.46/26
[16.Qe3!+- 3.67/27 Rd7 *(16...Bc5? 17.Rac1+-)* 17.Bc2]
16...bxa4? 2.47/25
[16...Bb4∓ -0.46/26 keeps the upper hand.]
17.Bxa4
[17.Rfc1+ Kb8 18.Bc4 Qf4∓ *(18...e3 19.fxe3 Rd7 20.Bxa6±)*]
17...e3 18.Rfc1+? 0.30/24
[18.fxe3? Rxa4 19.Rac1+ Kb8 20.Rxf7 Be7 21.Rxg7 Bc5 22.Rxc5 Ra1+ 23.Nf1 Rf8-+]
[White should play 18.Bc6+- 3.39/26 exf2+ *(18...Bxc6 19.Qxa6+ Kc7 20.fxe3±)* 19.Rxf2]
18...Kb8⇄ Black puts up resistance
19.Bc6 Dancing on a razor blade.
[19.Qc2 seems wilder. Bc5 20.Qxc5 exf2+ 21.Kf1]
19...exf2+ 20.Qxf2? -4.23/29
[20.Kf1!= 0.01/26 and White stays safe. Qxh2 21.Qxf2]
20...Qf4? -0.10/26
[20...Rc4!-+ -4.23/29 21.b3 *(21.Bxb7? Bc5-+)* 21...Bc5 Pin *(21...Rxc6 22.Rxc6 Bxc6 23.Rxa6∓)* 22.Rxc4 Bxf2+ 23.Kxf2 Qe7 *(23...Qxh2? 24.Bxb7 Kxb7 25.Rh1+-)* 24.Bxb7 Qxb7]
21.Qc2 -1.12/28
[21.Bf3!= -0.10/26 Rb4 *(21...Qxe5 22.Bxb7=)* 22.Qc2 Qe3+ *(22...Qxe5 23.Bxb7 Rxb7 24.Qc8+ Ka7 25.Rxa6+* Decoy *Kxa6 26.Qc6+ Ka7 27.Qa4+ Kb8 28.Qe8+ Ka7 29.Qa4+ Kb8 30.Qe8+ Ka7 31.Qa4+=)* 23.Kh1]

(Diagram)



Against Bc5 **21...Rd2!∓**
[21...Qxe5 22.Bxb7±]
22.Qb3? -2.96/27
[22.Qe4∓ -0.94/24 Qxe4 23.Nxe4 Rxb2 24.Bxb7 Remove Defender Rxb7 *(24...Kxb7 25.Rf1∓)* 25.Rxa6]
22...Qb4-+ 23.Qf3 -3.74/25
[23.Qxb4 -2.62/27 was called for. Bxb4 24.Bxb7 Kxb7 25.Ne4]
23...Bc5+
[23...Rxb2 24.Bxb7 Qxb7 25.Qxb7+ *(25.Ne4 Be7∓)* 25...Kxb7 26.Ne4-+]
24.Kh1 Rf2
[24...Qxb2? 25.Rab1 *(25.Qxf7 Bxc6 26.Qf1 Bxg2+; 25.Bxb7 Qxb7 26.Rxc5 Qxf3+-)* 25...Bxc6 26.Rxb2+ Rxb2 27.Qxc6+-]
25.Bxb7 -4.07/22
[25.Qe4 -2.55/22 only move. Be7 *(25...Qxb2? 26.Rcb1+-)* 26.Rc4]
25...Rxf3 26.Bxf3 Bd4?? 3.52/21
[26...Qxb2? 27.Rcb1+-]
[26...a5-+ -3.78/18 27.b3 Rd8]
27.Rxa6+- Ba7 Black is weak on the light squares
[27...Qxb2 28.Ra8#]
28.Rca1 Qd4 29.Rxa7 1.89/23
[⌓29.Rd6 3.72/23 Qb4 *(29...Qxb2*

30.Rdd1±; 29...Qxe5? 30.Rd7+-) 30.Rd7]

29...Qxa7 30.Rxa7 Kxa7 31.Ne4 Rb8 2.40/23

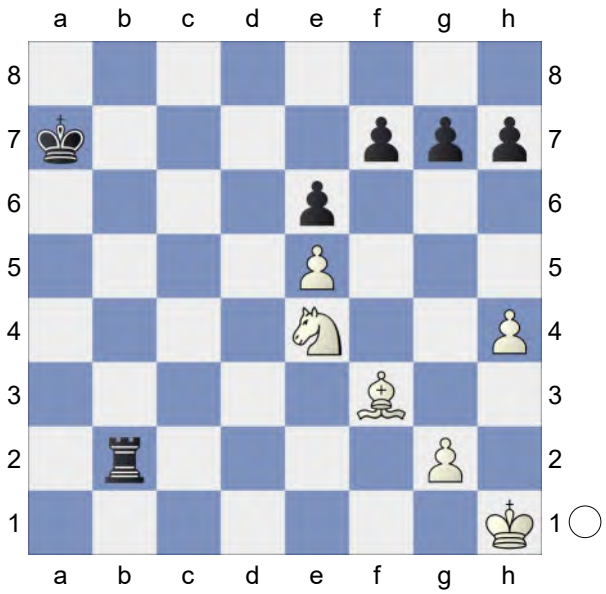
[⌓31...Kb6 1.84/20 32.Ng5 Kc5 33.Nxf7 Rg8]

32.h4? 0.78/23

[32.Ng5+- 2.40/23]

32...Rxb2 1.56/22

[⌓32...h6 0.78/23]



33.Nd6 0.17/22

[33.Ng5!± 1.56/22]

33...f5 34.Ne8 g6 35.Nf6 h6 36.Ng8 g5 37.Kh2 g4 0.49/25

[37...gxh4= 0.04/24 38.Kh3 *(38.Nxh6 Kb6±)* 38...Rb5]

38.Bc6 -0.01/24

[38.Bxg4!± 0.49/25 fxg4 39.Nxh6]

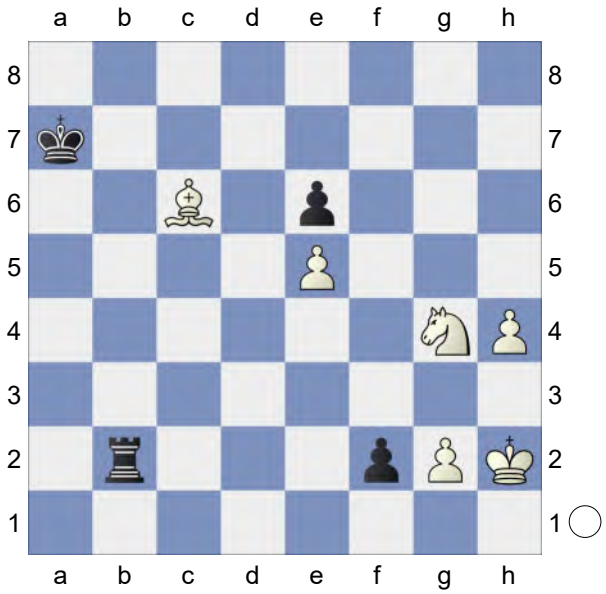
38...f4? 6.08/25

[38...Kb6= -0.01/24 39.Bd7 f4 *(39...Re2 40.Bxe6 Rxe5 41.Nxh6=)* 40.Nxh6 *(40.Bxe6 f3=)* 40...f3 41.Bxe6 *(41.Nxg4? Rxg2+ 42.Kh3 Rxg4-+* Remove Defender, Promotion *)* 41...Rxg2+ 42.Kh1 g3]

39.Nxh6 f3 8.35/24

[⌓39...Kb6 4.66/22]

40.Nxg4 f2



41.Nxf2! Rxf2 Endgame KR-KB **42.Bf3 Kb6 43.h5 Kc5 44.h6 Rb2 45.Kg3 Kd4 46.Kf4 Rb8 47.Kg5 Kxe5 48.h7 Kd4 49.Kf6 e5 50.Kg7?** 0.88/20

[50.Bh5+- 8.12/19 has better winning chances. e4 51.g4]

50...e4± 51.Bh5

[Reject 51.h8N?! exf3 52.gxf3 Ke3∓]

[51.h8Q Rxh8 52.Kxh8 exf3 53.gxf3 Ke5=]

[51.h8B exf3 52.gxf3 Ke5=]

51...Rb7+ 52.Bf7 Rb2? 9.34/19

[52...Rb8± 1.06/19]

53.h8Q+- Kf8+ would kill now.

[Stronger than 53.h8R Rxg2+ 54.Kh6 e3=]

53...Rxg2+ Weighted Error Value: White=0.94/Black=1.13 **54.Kf8+**

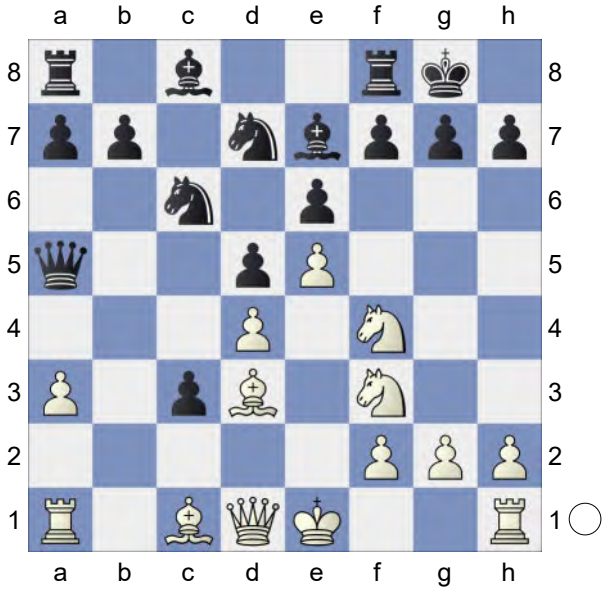
1-0

76 **C11**
□ **Firouzja,Alireza** **2766**
■ **Aronian,L.** **2737**
12th Sinquefield Cup (5.4) 22.08.2025
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.Nf3 Be7** The position is equal. **8.a3 0-0 9.Nf4 Qa5! 10.b4**

[10.Be3 simplifies Nxd4 11.Nxd4 cxd4 12.Bxd4 Qc7 13.Bd3 Nxe5 14.Bxh7+ Kxh7 15.Qh5+ Kg8 16.Bxe5 Bd6 17.Bxg7 Kxg7 18.Qg5+ Kh7 19.Qh5+ Kg7 20.Qg5+ Kh7 21.Qh5+ Kg7 22.Qg5+ Kh7 ½-½ Funke,M (2172)-Lladors,A (2212) Biel 1992 (7)]

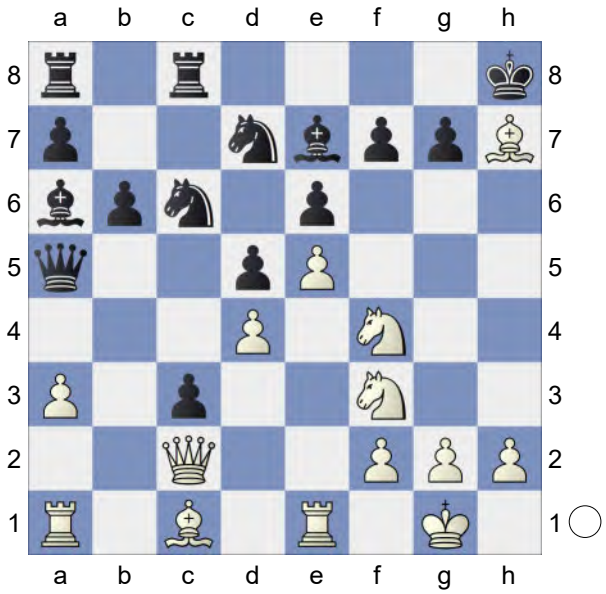
10...cxb4 11.Bd3! bxc3



12.Qc2 b6N

[12...h6 13.Rb1 *(13.0-0 b6 14.Qe2 Rb8 15.Nh5 Ba6 16.Bxa6 b5 17.Bxh6 gxh6 18.Qe3 Kh7 19.Qd3+ Kg8* #4 *7) Classical 5.Nce2-8.a3)* 13...Nxd4 14.Nxd4 Nxe5 15.0-0 *(15.Be2 Nc6 16.Nb3 Qd8 17.Qd3 d4 18.Nh5 e5 19.0-0 g6 20.Ng3 h5 21.f4 exf4 22.Bxf4 h4 23.Ne4 Bf5 24.g4 hxg3 25.Bxg3 Qd5 26.Bf3 Ne5 27.Nf6+ Bxf6 28.Qxf5 Nxf3+ 29.Qxf3 Qxf3* 0-1 Harikrishna,P (2716)-Carlsen,M (2864) Charity Cup Prelim rapid 2022 (2)*)* 15...Nxd3 16.Qxd3 e5 12) Steinitz-Variante-12 | Steinitz ohne f2-f4 | We 17.Rb5 Qa6 18.Nxd5 exd4 19.Nxe7+ Kh8 20.Qxd4 Qxb5 21.Bxh6 f6 22.Qh4 Bf5 #3 7) Classical 5.Nce2-8.a3]

13.Bxh7+ Kh8⇄ Black is not holding back **14.0-0 Ba6 15.Re1 Rfc8!**



16.Bg6! fxg6 17.Qxg6 Nf8 18.Qg4 Hoping for Nh5!. Some like it hot

[18.Qf7!? Rc7□ *(18...Qa4 19.Nh5)* 19.Nh5-+]

18...Rc7 19.Nxe6 Nxe6 20.Qh3+ Kg8 21.Qxe6+ Kh8 22.Qh3+ Kg8 23.Qe6+ Kh8 24.Qh3+ Kg8 Strongly threatening ...Rf8. A rather calm draw. Weighted Error Value: White=0.00 (flawless) / Black=0.02 (flawless) **25.Qe6+**
½-½

77 **C11**
□ **Ivanchuk,Vassily** **2765**
■ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2823**
4th Final Masters (5) 01.10.2011
[ChessBase,TA]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 Moskalenko,Viktor: 'Every now and then Magnu successfully applies some of the 'overtures' from my personal repertoire. I recall his wonderful Dutch Stonewall versus Anand, or the recent white victories in the Nimzo-Indian with 4.a3 and the Grünfeld 5.♗d2!? etc. Today I have a happy opportunity to comment on his play with black pieces in my favorite French Defence. ' **1.e4** Moskalenko,Viktor Mikhail Golubev (www.chesstoday.net) **1...e6** Moskalenko,Viktor: 'Magnus himself considered "the French Defence to be a second-rate opening at best". Nevertheless, he often used it, even in his decisive games. ' **2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Be7** Moskalenko,Viktor: '!?' Moskalenko,Viktor: 'A modern interpretation of the Classical System. Black actually refrains from the standard queenside action (7...a6 or 7...cxd4) in favour of play in the centre with ...b6 and ...f6. ' **8.a3** Mikhail Golubev (www.chesstoday.net): '!?' Mikhail Golubev (www.chesstoday.net): 'This is a rare move.' Moskalenko,Viktor: 'Not a very logical move, Black still has not advanced ...a6/...b5. But most importantly, with this tempo White greatly reduces his attacking potential.'

[The main theoretical direction is 8.Qd2 Moskalenko,Viktor also played by Carlsen on both sides:

A) Black can still switch the game to a flexible and trendy hybrid with 8...a6!? I advise to watch the successful current online games of Caruana and Kramnik;

B) 8...b6 0.74/19 8...a6 0.20 is premature 9.Bd3 0.22/20 *(9.Bb5!* is the strongest idea, intending 0-0-0 and f4-f5*; 9.Bb5±* 0.74/19 *Qc7 10.0-0-0)* 9...0-0= *(9...f6!* 0.82/19 9...0-0 0.25*)* 10.0-0 *(10.h4!?)* 10...f6 11.exf6 -0.13/19 *(⌓11.Bb5* 0.28/18 *Bb7 12.exf6 Nxf6 13.Qe2)* 11...Nxf6⇄ 1-0 (44) Carlsen,M (2837)-Morozevich,A (2770) Astana 2012;

C) 8...0-0 9.Be2 *(*today *9.dxc5!?* become the main answer*; 9.Bd3* -0.02/19 9.dxc5 0.43 *f6!; 9.g3 a6 10.Ne2 b5⇄* 1-0 (27) Carlsen,M (2765)-Jimenez Capilla,J (2029) Madrid 2008*)* 9...a6 10.0-0 b5 11.Kh1 Qc7 12.a3 Bb7 13.Rad1 -0.21/21 *(⌓13.dxc5* 0.15/20 *Bxc5 14.Ng5)* 13...Rac8 14.Qe1 cxd4 15.Nxd4 Nxd4 16.Bxd4 Bc5 17.Qh4? -0.72/20 *(⌓17.Qf2; 17.h3=* 0.01/20 *)* 17...Bxd4∓ 18.Rxd4 f6!∓ 0-1 (45) Karjakin,S (2720)-Carlsen,M (2810) Wijk aan Zee 2010]

8...0-0

[8...b6 9.Bd3 0-0 10.0-0 f5 11.exf6 Nxf6 12.Ne5 Bb7 13.Qf3 Bd6 14.Nb5 Be7 15.Qh3 Qc8 16.c4 Ne4 17.dxc5 Nxe5 18.fxe5 Bxc5 19.Rxf8+ Qxf8 20.Bxe4 dxe4 21.b4 Bxe3+ 22.Qxe3 Qf5 23.Qg3 1-0 Sethuraman,S (2737)-5.f3 c6 6.♕d2 b5 _53147 (2726) chess24.com (Int.-m/2-rapid) 145/128 2020]

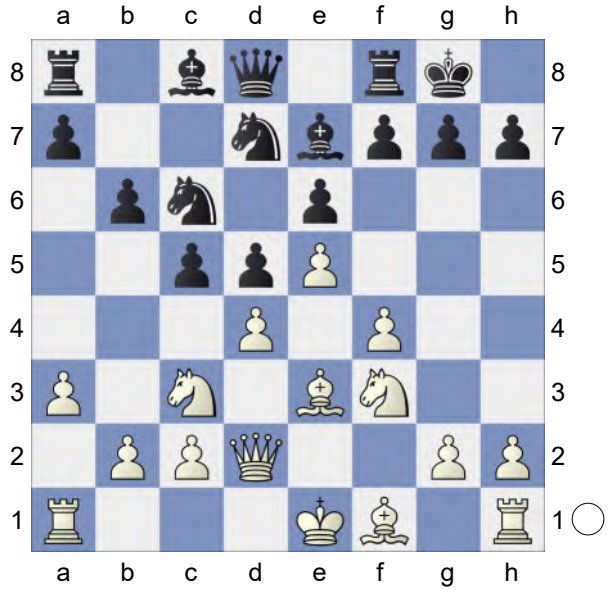
9.Qd2 Moskalenko,Viktor: 'A rather inconsistent decision for Ivanchuk, to return to the usual paths. However, in

the French structures, you never know the exact recipe.'

[9.dxc5 Bxc5 10.Bxc5 Nxc5 11.b4 Nd7 12.Bd3 h6 13.0-0 a5 14.b5 Ne7 15.Na4 b6 16.c3 Bb7 17.Bc2 Rc8 18.Qd3 g6 19.Rad1 h5 20.Qe3 Kg7 21.h3 Rh8 22.Qf2 Nc5 23.Nxc5 Rxc5 ½-½ Cardona,J (2104)-Laudati,L (2054) corr 234. NEC F-00001 2024]

9...b6N Mikhail Golubev (www.chesstoday.net): 'Diagram

[9...a6 10.dxc5 Nxc5 11.Rd1 b5 12.b4 Nd7 13.Bd3 Bb7 14.0-0 a5 15.Nxb5 axb4 16.axb4 Nxb4 17.Be2 Qa5 18.c3 Nc6 19.c4 Qxd2 20.Rxd2 Bb4 21.Rb2 dxc4 22.Bxc4 Bc5 23.Bxc5 Nxc5 24.Rc1 ½-½ Fedoseev,V (2691)-Erigaisi,A (2712) FIDE Grand Swiss 2023 (9)]



' Moskalenko,Viktor: '!?' Moskalenko, Viktor: 'Coincides with the theme of Black's modern set-up. ' **10.g3** -0.26/18 Mikhail Golubev (www.chesstoday.net): 'N'

[Mikhail Golubev (www.chesstoday.net): 'In Macieja-Morozevich, St Petersburg 1997 there was' Moskalenko,Viktor: 'The stem game already showed that Black is in perfect order:' 10.Bd3 -0.05/20 10.h4 0.46 f6! Moskalenko,Viktor: '!?' 11.exf6 -0.47/20 *(11.Bb5=* 0.15/19 *Bb7 12.0-0-0)* 11...Nxf6∓ Moskalenko, Viktor: ' ⇄' Moskalenko,Viktor: '0-1 (49) Macieja,B (2470)-Morozevich,A (2590) St Petersburg 1997' 12.Bb5 Qc7 13.Bxc6 Qxc6 14.Ne5 Qe8 Mikhail Golubev (www.chesstoday.net): ' ∞' 15.Qe2 -0.82/21 *(15.0-0∓* -0.31/20 *)* 15...Nd7 -0.42/20 *(15...a5!∓* -0.82/21 *)* 16.Nxd7 -0.89/19 *(16.0-0∓* -0.42/20 *)* 16...Bxd7∓ 17.0-0 Qg6 18.a4 c4 19.Rf3 a6 20.a5 -1.17/18 *(⌓20.Bf2* -0.79/17 *)* 20...b5∓ 21.Nd1 b4 22.Nf2 Bb5 -0.91/19 *(22...Qf5* -1.34/19 *23.h3 h5)* 23.Rg3 Qf5! 24.Qg4 -1.62/20 *(24.Ng4∓* -0.89/20 *Kh8 25.Qd1)* 24...Rf7 -0.75/19 *(24...Bf6-+* -1.62/20 and Black stays clearly on top. *25.c3 Qxg4 26.Nxg4 Be7 27.cxb4 Bxb4)* 25.Qd1∓ c3 -0.51/23 *(25...Kh8∓* -0.99/19 *)* 26.Ng4 -0.91/21 *(26.bxc3∓* -0.51/23 *bxc3 27.Ng4)* 26...Kh8!∓ 27.Ne5 Rff8! 28.b3 -1.71/21 *(28.bxc3∓* -0.58/21 *bxc3 29.Rh3)* 28...Bf6-+ 29.Ng4 -2.31/21 *(29.Rc1∓* -1.38/21 *)* 29...Be8!-+ 30.Nxf6 -2.54/23 *(30.h3* -1.93/19 *)* 30...gxf6-+ 31.Qg4 Bg6 32.Qxf5 -3.31/23 *(⌓32.Ra2* -2.32/21 *)* 32...Bxf5-+ 33.Ra2 h5 34.Bf2 Kh7 35.Re3 Rf7 36.Bh4 Rg8 37.g3 Be4 38.Re2 Kg6 39.Ra4 Rb7 40.h3? -3.92/22 *(40.Ra1* -2.03/21 *)* 40...Re8 41.Ra1 e5 42.fxe5 fxe5 43.dxe5 Rxe5 44.Rf1 Rf5 45.Rxf5 -5.84/22 *(45.g4* -4.04/22 was worth a try. *Rxf1+ 46.Kxf1)* 45...Bxf5 46.Bd8 d4 47.g4 hxg4 48.hxg4 Bxc2 49.Rxc2

d3 0-1 (49) Macieja,B (2470)-Morozevich,A (2590)/St Petersburg 1997/CBM 062]

[10.h4± 0.47/19]

10...Kh8 0.40/18 Moskalenko,Viktor: 'For example, now Black is losing an important tempo,'

[although it seems logical in the event of 10...f6! Moskalenko,Viktor 11.Bh3 Kh8!∞]

[10...f6= -0.26/18]

11.h4± Moskalenko,Viktor: '!' Moskalenko,Viktor: 'Finally an attacking move!' **11...f6** 0.77/19

[11...a6= 0.23/17]

12.exf6 0.31/18

[More critical was 12.0-0-0!? Moskalenko,Viktor keeping the tension in the centre.]

[White should play 12.0-0-0± 0.77/19]

12...Nxf6 13.Bh3 -0.94/17 Prevents Ng4 Moskalenko,Viktor: 'This manoeuvre does not make much sense.'

[After Moskalenko,Viktor: 'Still' 13.0-0-0 -0.01/18 13.Bb5 0.61 (Mikhail Golubev (www.chesstoday.net)) Black maybe could have tried Moskalenko,Viktor: '!?' Moskalenko,Viktor: 'is the best idea:'

A) If 13...Ng4 14.Bg1 -0.30/19 *(⌓14.Bh3 0.10/18 Nxe3 15.Qxe3)*;

B) 13...Ne4? 2.55/20 13...Ng4 -0.01 Moskalenko,Viktor 14.Nxe4 dxe4 15.Bb5+- 1-0 (48) Vocaturo,D (2579)-Rombaldoni,A (2513) Condino 2014;

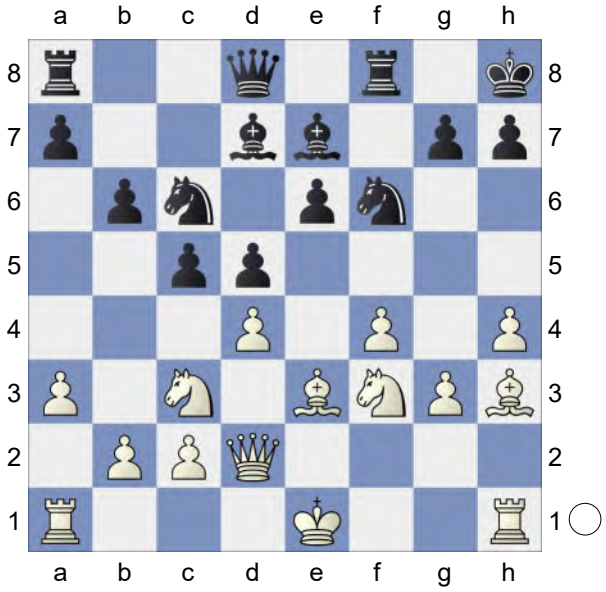
C) 13...Ng4= -0.01/18;

D) 13...c4 0.56/18 planning ...b6-b5 14.Ne5∞ Moskalenko,Viktor ½-½ (28) Sutkalenko,D (2253)-Williams,J (2122) ICCF email 2013]

[13.Bb5± 0.53/18 stays ahead. Bd7 14.0-0-0]

13...Bd7 -0.18/18 Mikhail Golubev (www.chesstoday.net): ' ∞' Mikhail Golubev (www.chesstoday.net): 'Diagram

[Better is 13...Qe8!∓ -0.94/17]



' **14.Rd1** -0.78/17 Mikhail Golubev (www.chesstoday.net): '?!' Mikhail Golubev (www.chesstoday.net): 'White had a wide choice here, Ivanchuk's move gives Black the opportunity for quick counterplay.'

[14.Qd3= -0.18/18]

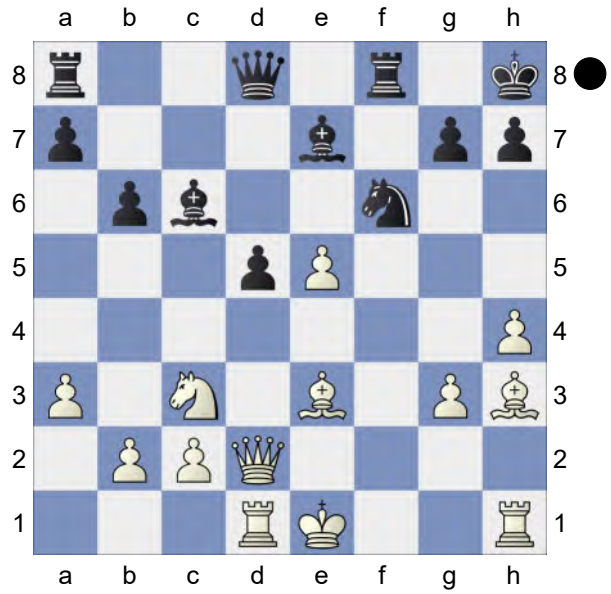
14...cxd4∓ 15.Nxd4 e5 -0.08/18 Mikhail Golubev (www.chesstoday.net): '!'

[Now Black had a chance with 15...Na5!↑ Moskalenko,Viktor as in case of 16.Nxe6 -1.91/21 *(16.Qe2!∓* -0.61/17 *)* 16...Qc8! , according to the engine Black is winning, but it is difficult to assess the position even for the best players in the world.]

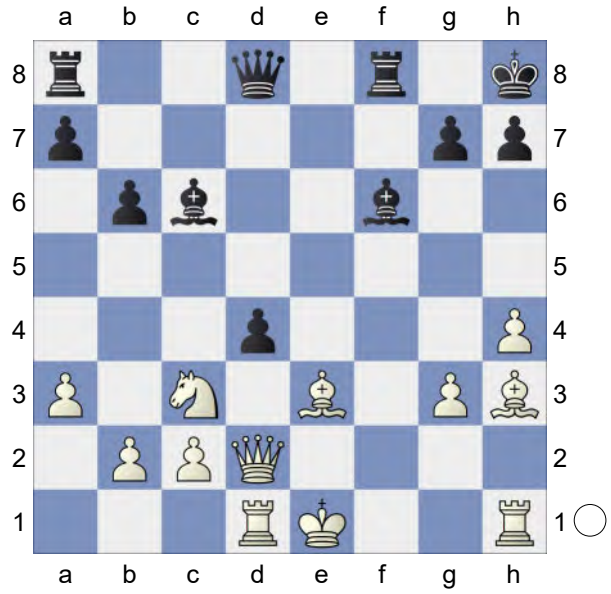
[15...Na5!∓ -0.75/20 16.b3 *(16.Nxe6 Bxe6 17.Bxe6 Nc4=; 16.Bxe6 Nc4∓)* 16...Qc8]

16.Nxc6= Remove Defender **16...Bxc6 17.fxe5** Mikhail Golubev (www.

chesstoday.net): 'Diagram

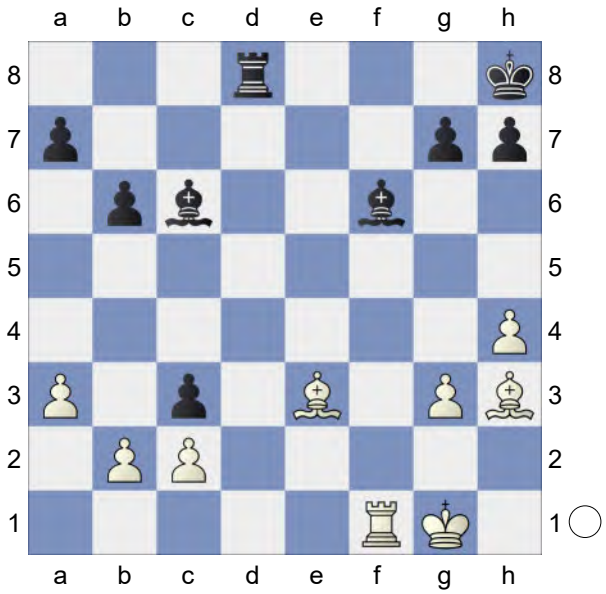


' **17...d4!** 0.16/21 **18.exf6 Bxf6**

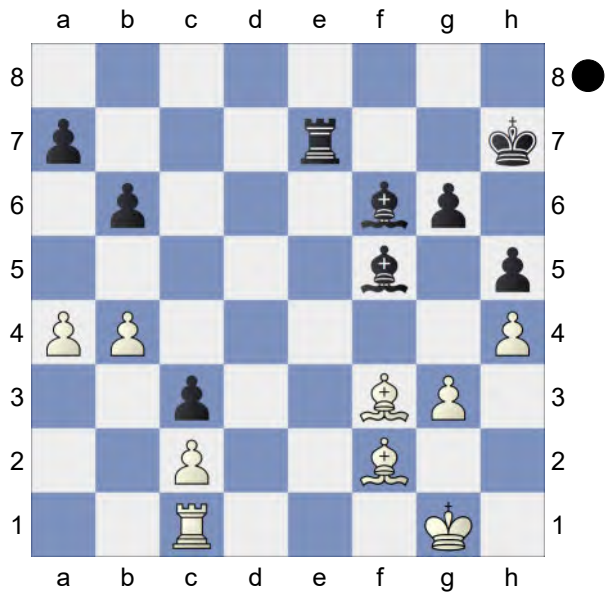


19.0-0 dxc3 Moskalenko,Viktor: '!?'
[19...dxe3 20.Qxe3]
20.Qxd8 Raxd8 21.Rxd8 Rxd8 Mikhail Golubev (www.chesstoday.net): 'Diagram

(Diagram)



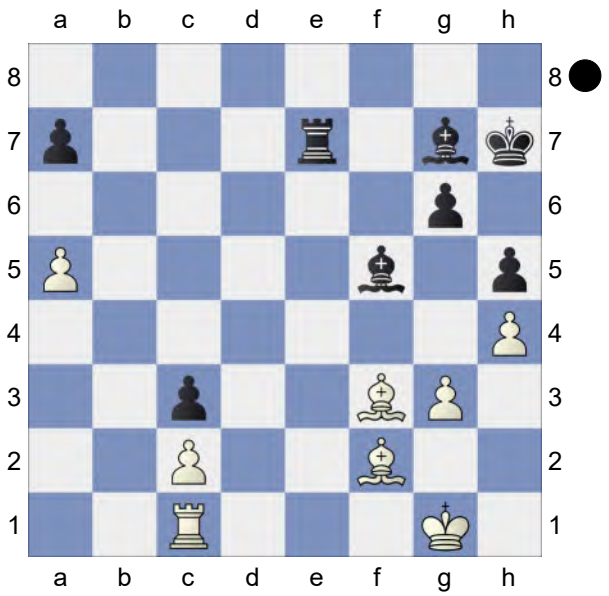
' **22.b3** -0.44/24 Mikhail Golubev (www.chesstoday.net): '?!' Moskalenko,Viktor: '?' From here on the Norwegian GM proceeds to outplay the tournament leader in this double-bishops ending. Typical Carlsen.
[Here correct was the concrete approach: 22.bxc3!= (Mikhail Golubev (www.chesstoday.net)) with the idea of Moskalenko,Viktor: 'definitively eliminates the danger of Black's c-pawn.' Bxc3 23.Rf7]
[22.bxc3= 0.30/26 h5 *(22...Bxc3 23.Rf7±)* 23.Bf5]
22...Re8!∓ Moskalenko,Viktor: '!' **23.Bf2** -0.87/21
[23.Re1∓ -0.39/24]
23...Be4∓ 24.Re1 Re7 Mikhail Golubev (www.chesstoday.net): 'White is forced to switch to a passive defence.' **25.Rc1 h5 26.Bg2** -1.45/24
[⌓26.Bf1 -0.80/21]
26...Bf5! Black is much more active.
27.Bf3 Repels Re2 **27...g6 28.a4?** -3.21/22
[28.b4∓ -1.05/20]
28...Kh7-+ 29.b4 Mikhail Golubev (www.chesstoday.net): 'Diagram



' **29...g5?** -0.23/20 Mikhail Golubev (www.chesstoday.net): '?!' Moskalenko, Viktor: '?' Moskalenko,Viktor: 'Inaccuracy is inherent in important games.'

[Stronger was Moskalenko,Viktor: 'Black could have obtained a technical win using a typical roundabout with the bishop:' 29...Bg7!↑ (Mikhail Golubev (www.chesstoday.net)) with the idea of Moskalenko,Viktor: '!' 30.a5?! -4.62/27 *(⌓30.Bd1 -2.77/21)* 30...Bh6∓ *(30...bxa5* Moskalenko, Viktor *31.bxa5*

(Diagram)



and now *Bh6!* with the idea *32.Re1 Rxe1+ 33.Bxe1 Bd2!-+* etc. *)*]

[29...Bg7!-+ -3.38/23 30.Bd1 Re5]

30.a5!= Moskalenko,Viktor: '!' **30...g4**

31.axb6 -1.59/24 Moskalenko,Viktor: '?'

[31.Bd5!= Moskalenko,Viktor defending with ♗b3.]

[31.Bd5!= -0.24/21]

31...axb6 -0.73/23 Moskalenko,Viktor: '?' Moskalenko,Viktor: 'It is well known that Magnus likes to make the most practical decisions at the board.'

[It was principled to accept the sacrifice 31...gxf3 Moskalenko,Viktor 32.bxa7 Be4 that only at first glance seems complicated, but should be won for Black.]

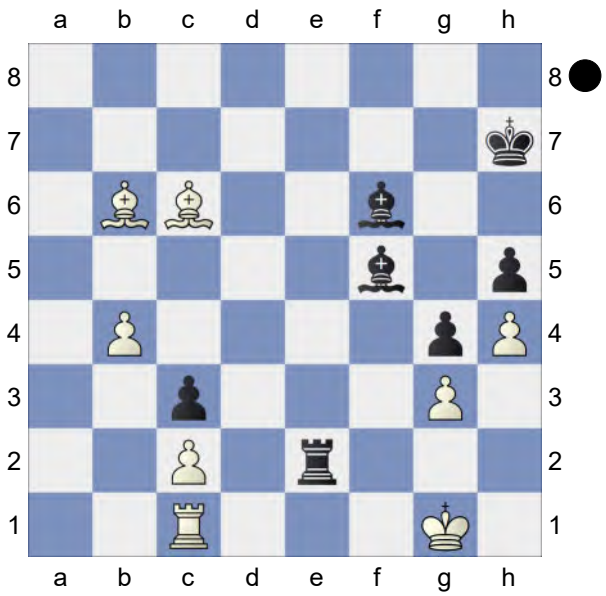
[⌓31...gxf3 -1.59/24 32.bxa7 Be4]

32.Bc6 -1.25/23

[⌓32.Bd5 -0.73/23]

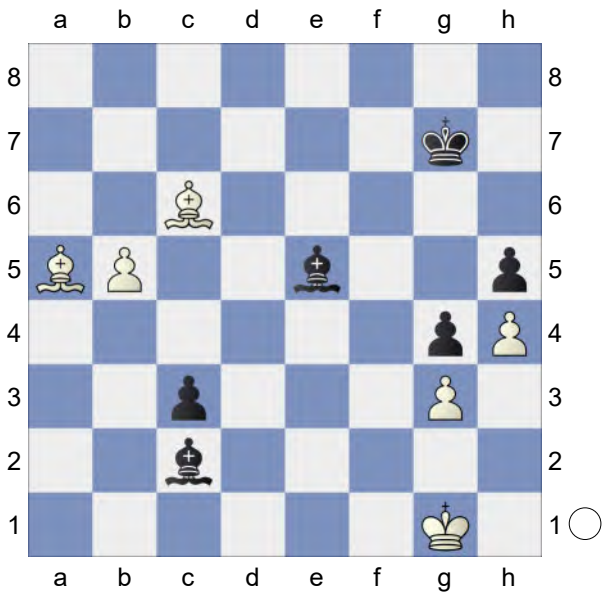
32...Re2∓ 33.Bxb6

(Diagram)



Be5!
[33...Rxc2? 34.Rf1+-]
[33...Bxc2? 34.Rxc2 Re1+ 35.Kg2+-]
34.b5 Kg7? 0.01/23
[34...Bxc2? 35.Rxc2 Rxc2 36.Be4+ Kh6 37.Be3+ *(37.Bxc2 Bd4+ 38.Bxd4=)* 37...Kg7 38.Bxc2+-]
[34...Bxg3?! 35.Bd4∓]
[34...Rxc2-+ -1.66/25 35.Rxc2 Bxc2]
35.Ba5= And now b6 would win.
35...Rxc2
[35...Bxc2 36.b6±]
36.Rxc2 Bxc2 Endgame Mikhail Golubev (www.chesstoday.net): 'Diagram

(Diagram)

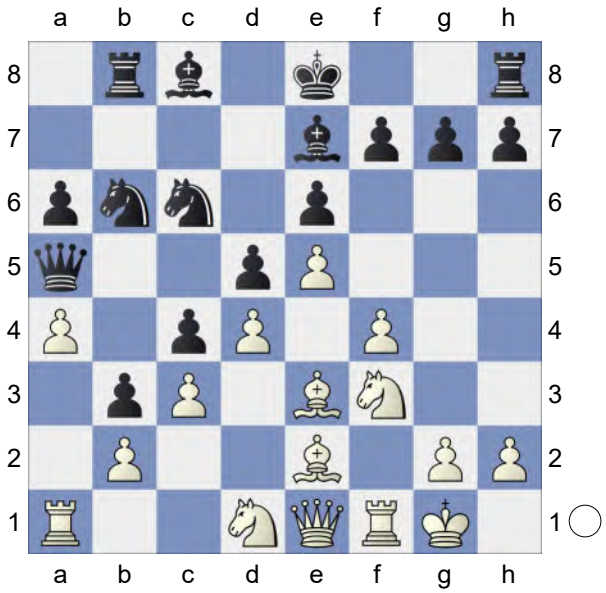


' . K B B - K B B **37.Kf2?** -4.47/23 Mikhail Golubev (www.chesstoday.net): 'An untimely actvation of the king.'
[Mikhail Golubev (www.chesstoday.net): 'It does not seem that Black has winning chances after' 37.b6 Mikhail Golubev (www.chesstoday.net): '=!' would have probably held the position.]
[37.b6= 0.01/23 and White has nothing to worry.]
37...Bd3? -0.49/21 Mikhail Golubev (www.chesstoday.net): ' ∓' Moskalenko, Viktor: '?' Moskalenko,Viktor: 'This already looks like a game of ping-pong.'
[37...Bg6!-+ Moskalenko,Viktor]
[37...Bg6-+ -4.47/23 ...c2 would now be deadly. 38.Bb4 *(38.b6? Bd4+ 39.Ke2 c2-+)* 38...c2]
38.Ke3 Bg6 39.Be4 -7.95/24 Moskalenko,Viktor: 'The last mistake.'
[Once again White could have tried to defend with Moskalenko,Viktor: 'Once again Ivanchuk could have tried to defend with' 39.b6!]
[39.b6∓ -0.55/24]
39...c2-+ Black is clearly winning.
[And not 39...Bxg3 40.Bxc3+ Kf7

41.Bd5+ Ke7 42.b6=]
40.Bd2 Bxg3 41.Bxg6 Kxg6 42.Kd3 Bf2 43.Kxc2 g3 44.Bf4 g2 45.Bh2 Weighted Error Value: White=1.01/Black=0.56 **45...Kf5** Nicely played by the amazing Magnus. A game to study. Moskalenko,Viktor: 'Nicely played by the amazing Magnus. A game to study, especially the sharp ending!'
0-1

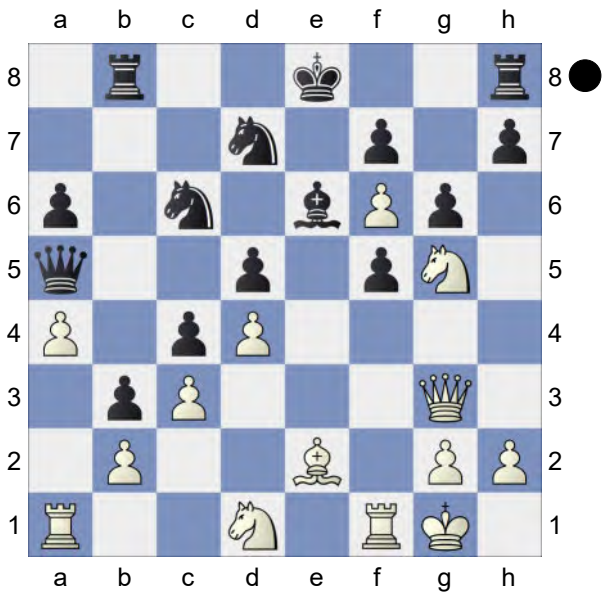
78 **C11**
□ **Giri,Anish** **2764**
■ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2859**
Meltwater Tour Final 2022 rapid (4.1)
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.Qd2 b5 9.a3 Qa5 10.Be2 b4 11.Nd1 Rb8** 0.52/19
[11...Be7= 0.10/18]
12.0-0±
[12.c3 bxc3 13.Nxc3 cxd4 14.Nxd4 Nxd4 15.Bxd4 Bc5 16.Bxc5 Qxc5 17.b4 Qa7 18.Rd1 Bb7 19.Ne4 0-0 20.Nd6 Bc6 21.Qd4 Qxd4 22.Rxd4 Bb5 23.Nxb5 axb5 24.Kd2 g5 25.g3 Rb7 26.Rc1 Ra8 ½-½ Grischuk,A (2763)-Potkin,V (2651) 65th ch Moscow RUS 2012 (3)]
12...c4N 0.75/19
[12...Be7= 0.28/20]
[12...bxa3 13.Qxa5 Nxa5 14.b3 Nc6 15.dxc5 Nb4 16.Nd4 Bxc5 17.Rc1 a2 18.Nf2 a1Q 19.Rxa1 Bxd4 20.Bxd4 Nxc2 21.Rad1 Nxd4 22.Rxd4 Rxb3 23.Ra4 0-0 24.Rc1 Nb6 25.Ra5 Bb7 26.Nd3 Nc4 27.Ra4 0-1 Krishnan,V (2341)-Bluebaum,M (2660) Titled Tuesday intern op 18th Apr Late blitz 2023 (4)]
13.a4± Be7 0.72/19
[13...b3± 0.33/17]
14.Qe1 b3 0.90/19
[14...f5± 0.45/17 might be stronger.]
15.c3 0.45/20
[15.Bd2!± 0.90/19 Qd8 16.c3]
15...Nb6



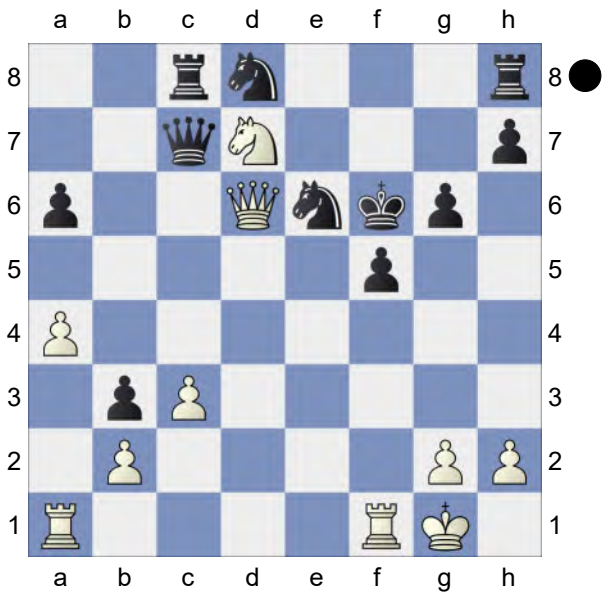
16.f5 -0.05/17 **exf5= 17.Qg3 g6 18.Bg5** -0.73/21
[18.Bh6= 0.11/20]
18...Be6!∓ Black is more active. **19.Bf6** -1.78/23
[19.Ne3∓ -0.36/20]
19...Bxf6-+ 20.exf6 Nd7! 21.Ng5

(Diagram)

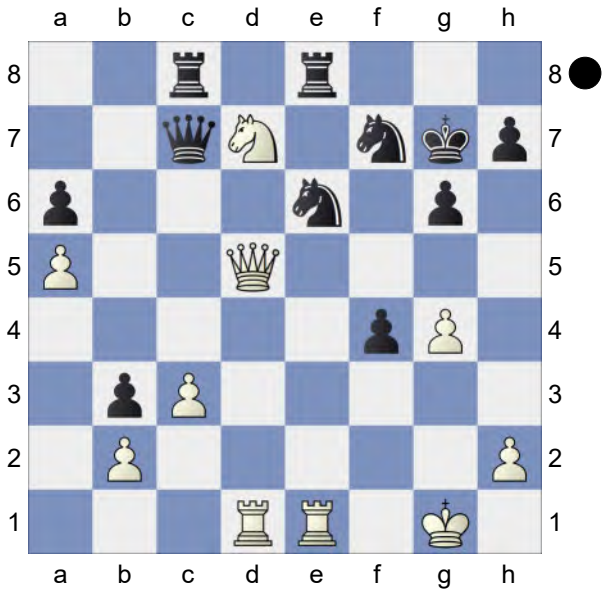


Qd6 is the strong threat. **21...Rc8?** 0.25/19
[21...Qd8!-+ -1.66/20 22.Nxe6 fxe6]
22.Nxe6? -1.55/21
[22.Qd6? Qc7 23.Qxc7 Rxc7 24.Nxe6 fxe6 25.f7+ Kxf7-+]
[22.Qe3!= 0.25/19]
22...fxe6∓ 23.Qd6 Nf8 24.Bxc4? -3.53/21 **dxc4-+ 25.Ne3 Qc7 26.Nxc4 Kf7 27.d5 Nd8 28.dxe6+?** -5.03/22
[But not 28.Ne5+? Kxf6 29.Ng4+ Kg7 30.Qe5+ Qxe5 31.Nxe5 Nf7 *(31...exd5? 32.Rfd1-+)* 32.Nxf7 Kxf7-+]
[28.Qb4 -2.83/18 Qc5+ *(28...Qxc4 29.Qe7+ Kg8 30.Qg7#; 28...Kxf6 29.Nd6∓)* 29.Qxc5 Remove Defender Rxc5 30.Nd6+ Kg8 *(30...Kxf6? 31.Ne4+ Ke7 32.d6+ Kd7 33.Nxc5+ Kc6 34.Nxa6+-)* 31.dxe6 Ndxe6 *(31...Nfxe6? 32.Rfd1-+)* 32.h4]
28...Nfxe6
[28...Kxf6? perishes. 29.Qd4+ Kg5 *(29...Ke7? 30.Nb6+-)* 30.Qxh8+-]
29.Ne5+ Kxf6 30.Nd7+

(Diagram)

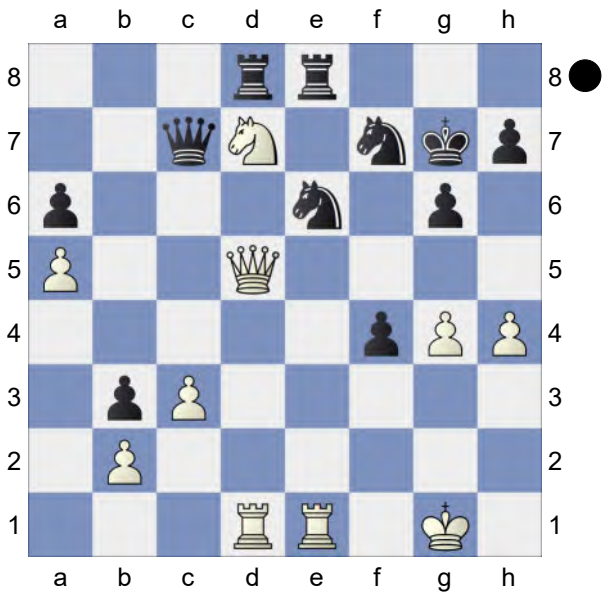


Kf7! 31.Qd5 Re8 32.Rad1 Kg7 33.g4? -6.83/18
[33.Rfe1 -3.35/18]
33...f4 Black is clearly winning. **34.a5 Nf7 35.Rfe1**



Rcd8! ...Re7! is the strong threat. **36.h4**
[36.Rxe6 Rxd7]

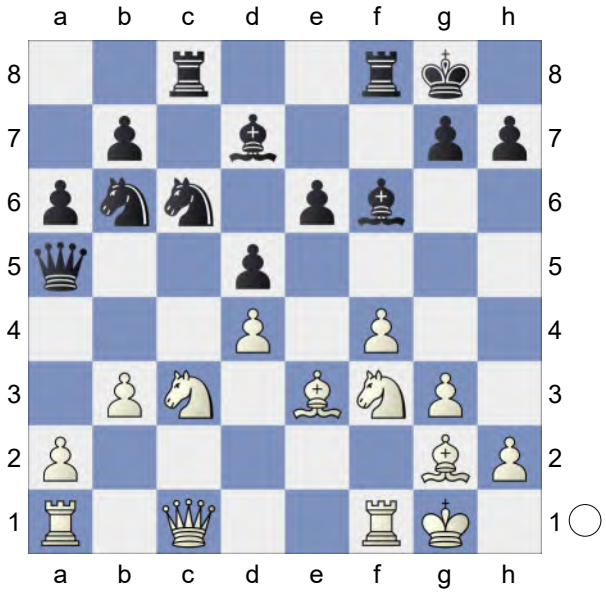
(Diagram)



Weighted Error Value: White=0.99/ Black=0.47 **36...f3!**
0-1

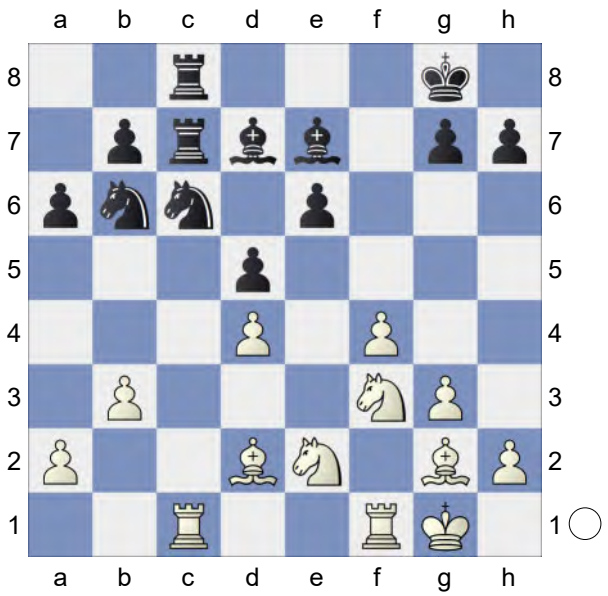
79 **C11**
□ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2764**
■ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2853**
11th Norway Chess 2023 (1.1) 30.05.23
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.Ne2 Qb6 9.Qc1 Be7 10.c3** White is slightly better. **10...0-0 11.g3** -0.01/19
[11.h4!± 0.61/16 f6 12.h5 h6 13.Rh3 *(13.a3 Na5 14.Rb1 Qc7 15.b3 fxe5 16.dxe5 b5 17.g3 Bb7 18.Bg2 Rac8 19.0-0 Nb6 20.Qc2 Qd7 21.Qg6 Rc6 22.Ng5* 1-0 Maurizzi,M (2581)-Bacrot,E (2640) Djerba Festival Masters 2025 (6.5)*)* 13...Qa5 14.Kf2 cxd4 15.cxd4 fxe5 16.fxe5 Ndxe5 17.dxe5 Nxe5 18.Kg1 Ng4 19.Rg3 e5 20.Rxg4 Bxg4 21.Nxe5 Bxh5 22.Nf4 Rac8 23.Qe1 Qxe1 24.Rxe1 Bb4 25.Rb1 d4 26.Bc1 0-1 Aronian,L (2781)-Bluebaum,M (2670) chess24.com (Internet-rapid) 2021]
11...f6N
[11...a5 12.Bg2 Qa7 13.0-0 b5 14.f5 exf5 15.Nh4 Bxh4 16.gxh4 cxd4 17.cxd4 Ne7 18.Ng3 g6 19.Qd2 Re8 20.Rad1 Qb6 21.h5 Bb7 22.hxg6 hxg6 23.h4 Rac8 24.h5 b4 25.hxg6 fxg6 26.Bg5 1-0 Neto,H (2602)-Mannanov,R (2283) corr CL/2017/Chall 1 2015 [1]]
12.Bg2 cxd4 13.cxd4 Qa5+ 0.56/19
[13...Qb5= 0.01/20]
14.Nc3!± Nb6 15.exf6 Bxf6 16.b3 Bd7 17.0-0! Rac8

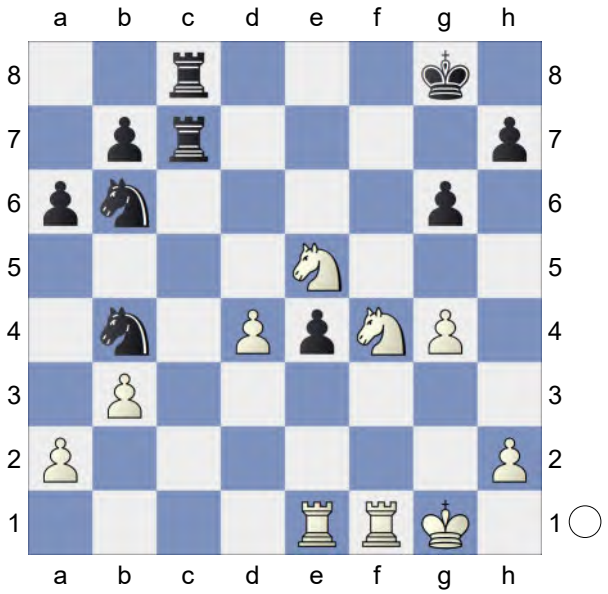


18.Qd2 0.38/18
[18.Qe1!± 0.80/19]
18...Be7! And now ...Bb4 would win.
19.Ne2 Qxd2 20.Bxd2 Rc7 21.Rac1 Rfc8

(Diagram)

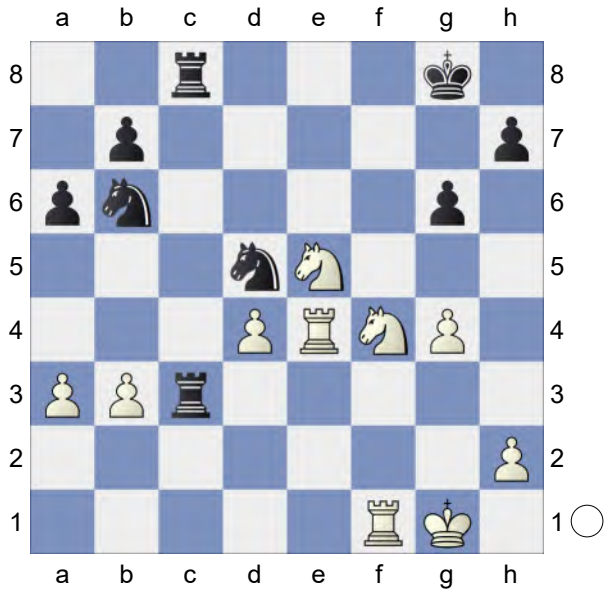


22.f5! Ba3! 23.Rce1 Bb4 1.26/22
[⌓23...Nb4 0.89/19]
24.Bxb4 0.89/18
[⌓24.fxe6 1.26/22 Bxe6 25.Bxb4 Nxb4 26.Nf4]
24...Nxb4± 25.fxe6 Bxe6 26.Nf4 Bf5 27.Ne5 0.82/21
[⌓27.Re5 1.22/19 g6 28.Ne1]
27...g6 28.g4↑ White has strong initiative. **28...Be4 29.Bxe4 dxe4**



30.a3 0.24/21
[30.Rxe4 Nxa2 31.g5 Nc3=]
[30.g5!± 1.15/21]

30...N4d5 1.08/22
[30...Nc2!= 0.24/21 remains equal. 31.Rxe4 Re7]
31.Rxe4 White is more active. This costs Black the game. **31...Rc3?** 2.59/20
[31...Nxf4!± 0.60/19 32.Rexf4 *(32.Rfxf4 Nd5±)* 32...Nd5]

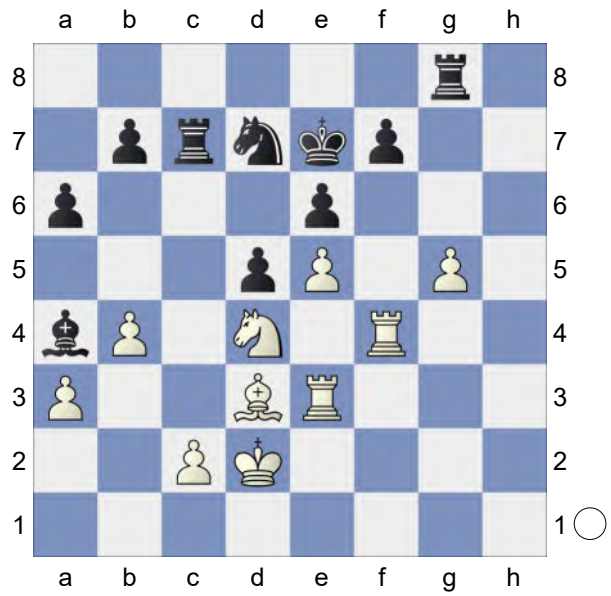


32.Nd7!+- Black must now prevent Nxd5. Deflection **32...Rxb3?** 6.44/24
[32...Nxf4 1.87/21 33.Nf6+ *(33.Nxb6 Nh3+ 34.Kg2 Rf8±)* 33...Kg7 34.Rexf4 *(34.Rfxf4 Rc1+ 35.Kf2 R8c2+ 36.Kg3 Rg1+ 37.Kh3 Nc8±)* 34...Rc1]
[32...Rd8 33.Nxb6]
33.Nxd5 White is clearly winning.
33...Nxd5 34.Re5 Nc3 35.Nf6+ Kf7 Weighted Error Value: White=0.19 (very precise) /Black=0.57 **36.Nd7+?** -0.01/40 Loss on time!?
[36.Nxh7++- 5.12/25 Kg7 37.Re7+ Kg8 38.Nf6+ Kf8 39.Nd5+ Kg8 40.Re3]
1-0

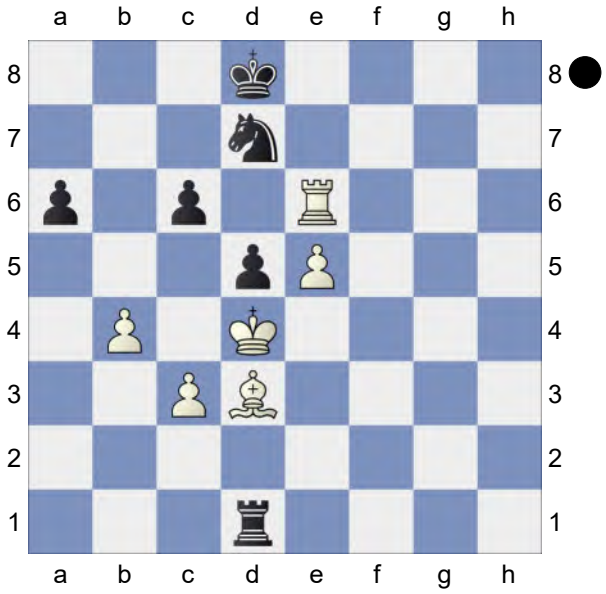
80 **C11**
□ **Firouzja,Alireza** **2763**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2801**
World Rapid 2024 (13.4) 28.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 h6 8.Qd2 g5** 0.97/22 **9.dxc5!±**
[9.fxg5 cxd4 10.Bxd4 *(10.Nxd4 hxg5 11.Bxg5 Bh6=)* 10...hxg5=]
9...gxf4 White is better. **10.Bxf4 Nxc5**
[10...Bxc5 11.0-0-0 a6 12.Kb1 Qa5 13.Bxh6 Bb4 14.Be3 Bxc3 15.Qxc3 Qxc3 16.bxc3 Ndxe5 17.Nxe5 Nxe5 18.Bd4 f6 19.Re1 Ng4 20.c4 dxc4 21.Bxc4 e5 22.h3 Nh6 23.Rhf1 Nf5 24.Bb2 Nd6 25.Bd3 ½-½ Firouzja,A (2759)-Rapport,R (2763) Paris GCT Rapid 2021 (6)]
11.Be2N 0.64/19
[11.Bb5± 1.00/21]
[11.Bd3 Qb6 12.0-0-0 Bd7 13.Be3 Qa5 14.Kb1 0-0-0 15.Bb5 Be8 16.a3 Nd7 17.Rhe1 a6 18.Bxc6 bxc6 19.Bf2 Kb7 20.Nd4 Qc7 21.Nb3 Rg8 22.g3 Rc8 23.Re2 Rg6 24.Qf4 c5 25.h4 h5 ½-½ Vidit,S (2726)-Erigaisi,A (2797) London WR Masters 2024 (2.1)]
11...Bd7± 12.Qe3 0.49/21 Inhibits Ne4.
[12.0-0-0± 0.94/21]
12...Qb6 13.0-0-0 0-0-0 14.Rhf1 a6 15.Nd4 Be8 16.Kb1 Nd7? 2.47/23
[16...Nxd4± 0.81/22 17.Rxd4 *(17.Qxd4 Nd7±)* 17...Kb8]
17.Nxc6? 0.53/22
[17.Na4+- 2.47/23 Qc7 18.Nxc6 Qxc6 19.b3]
17...Qxc6 1.06/23
[17...Qxe3± 0.53/22 18.Bxe3 bxc6]
18.Qh3 0.54/20
[18.Qg3± 1.06/23]
18...Be7 1.07/22
[18...Nb6± 0.54/20]
19.a3 0.58/23
[19.Bxh6? Bf8 *(19...Nxe5 20.Qe3∓; 19...Bg5 20.Bxg5 Rxh3 21.gxh3∓)* 20.Nxd5 exd5-+ *(20...Bxh6? 21.Ne7+ Kc7 22.Nxc6+-; 20...Rxh6 21.Qxh6 Bxh6 22.Ne7+ Kc7 23.Nxc6=)*]
[19.Nxd5!± 1.07/22 exd5 20.Bf3]
19...Nb6 20.Be3 0.28/23
[20.Bxh6 d4 *(20...Bg5 21.Bxg5 Rxh3 22.gxh3=)* 21.Na2 Qc7-+]
[20.Qg3!± 0.89/24]
20...Kb8!= 21.Bd4
[21.Bxh6? d4 22.Na2 Rc8∓]
21...Rc8! 22.Qe3 -0.01/22
[22.Qg4± 0.38/24]
22...Bc5! 23.Bd3 Bxd4 24.Qxd4 Nd7 25.g4 Qb6 0.57/25
[25...Qc7= 0.10/25]
26.Qxb6± Nxb6 27.Rf4 Kc7 28.Re1 Nd7 29.Na2 0.08/24
[29.h4± 0.64/24]
29...Kd8 0.56/26
[29...Rf8!= 0.08/24]
30.Nc1 Ke7 31.Nb3 Rc7 32.Nd4 Nc5 33.h4 Rf8 34.Re3 Bc6 35.b4 0.12/26
[35.Rf6± 0.69/24]
35...Nd7!= 36.Kc1 Ba4 37.Kd2 Rfc8 38.g5 hxg5 39.hxg5 Rg8

(Diagram)

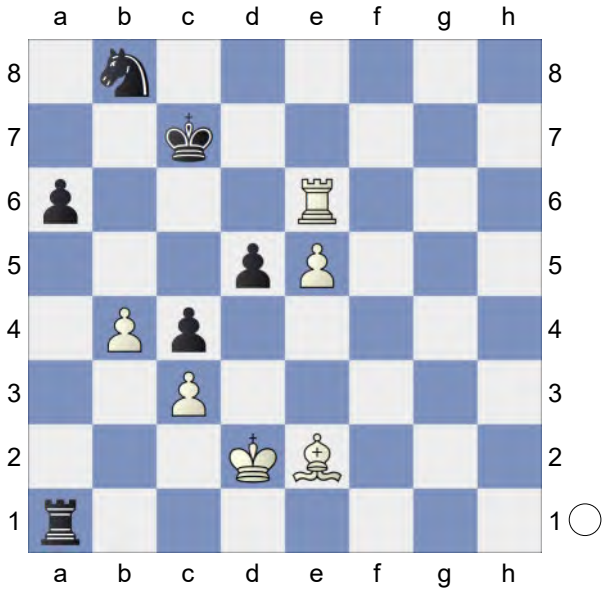


40.g6 fxg6 41.Rh4 Nf8 Prevents Rh7+. **42.Rh6 Be8 43.Rg3**
[43.Rf3 is more complex. Rc8 44.Nb3 g5 45.Nc5]
43...Kd8 44.Ke3 Rcg7 Black is weak on the dark squares **45.Be2** White has compensation. **45...Ke7 46.Nb3 Nd7 47.Rg5 Nf8 48.Nc5 Bc6** 0.58/23
[48...Rh7= 0.22/22 49.Rxh7+ Nxh7]
49.Bd3± Kf7 0.96/24
[49...Kd8± 0.48/22]
50.Rh4 0.14/23 White has more active pieces.
[Better is 50.Rg4± 0.96/24]
50...Rh7= 51.Rf4+
[51.Rxh7+ simplifies Nxh7 52.Rg1 Nf8 53.a4]
51...Ke7 52.Rf6 -1.04/22
[52.Rfg4= 0.01/25 remains equal.]
52...Rf7 -0.01/24
[52...Rh3+!∓ -1.04/22 53.Kd4 Rh5 54.Rxh5 gxh5]
53.Rxf7+ Kxf7 54.Nb3 Rh8 55.Na5 Rh3+ 56.Kd4 Ke7 57.Bxg6 Rxa3? 2.95/27
[57...Rh4+= 0.01/24 58.Kc3 Nxg6 59.Rxg6 Re4]
58.Bd3? 0.01/26
[White must play 58.Bh5!+- 2.95/27]
58...Nd7 59.Rg7+
[59.Bxa6 Rxa5 60.Bxb7 Rb5 61.Bxc6 Rxb4+ 62.Kd3 Nc5+ 63.Kc3 Rc4+ 64.Kb2 Ne4 65.Rg7+ Kf8∓]
59...Kd8 60.Rg6
[60.Bxa6 Rxa5 61.Rg8+ *(61.Bxb7 Rb5∓)* 61...Ke7 62.bxa5 bxa6∓]
60...Ke7 61.Rg7+ Kd8 62.Rh7
[62.Bxa6 Rxa5 63.bxa5 *(63.Bxb7 Rb5∓)* 63...bxa6∓]
62...Ra4 63.c3 Ra1 64.Rh6 Rd1 and ...Bb5 would now be decisive
65.Nxc6+ bxc6 66.Rxe6 Endgame



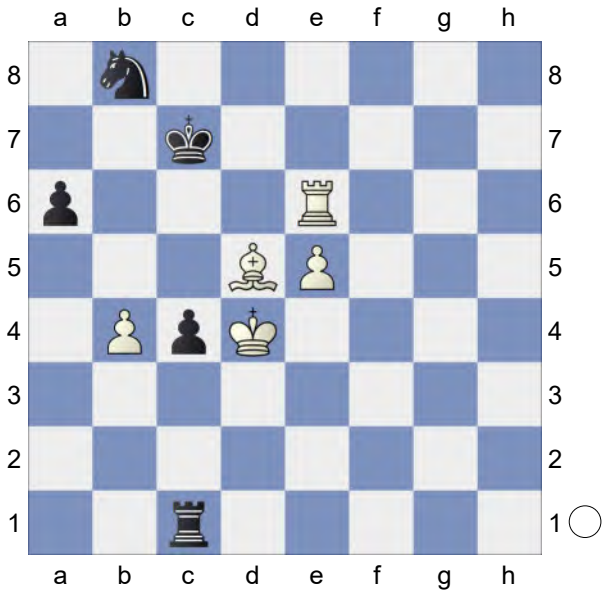
KRB-KRN **66...c5+! 67.Ke3**
[67.bxc5? Rxd3+ 68.Kxd3 Nxc5+ 69.Kd4 Nxe6+-+]
67...Re1+ 68.Kf4 c4 0.99/23
[68...cxb4= 0.15/22 69.cxb4 *(69.Rxa6 Nxe5 70.Bc2 Kc7∓)* 69...Kc7]
69.Bf5± Rf1+ 70.Kg5 Rg1+ 71.Kf4 -0.01/21
[71.Bg4± 1.10/25]
71...Rf1+= 72.Kg5 Rg1+ 73.Bg4 Kc7 Inhibits Rd6. **74.Kf4** 0.07/23
[74.Rxa6? perishes. Nxe5 75.Kf4

Nxg4-+]
[74.Re7!± 1.29/23 Kc6 75.Kf4 *(75.Rxd7 Rxg4+* Remove Defender *76.Kxg4 Kxd7=)*]
74...Rf1+ 75.Ke3 and Re7! would now be decisive **75...Re1+ 76.Be2 Nb8?** 5.16/22
[76...Rc1= 0.17/19 and Black is okay.]
77.Kd2? 0.44/24
[77.Rd6+- 5.16/22 Nc6 78.Rxd5]
77...Ra1!±



78.Bf3! Ra2+ 79.Ke3 Rc2 80.Bxd5 Rxc3+ 81.Kd4 Rc1

(Diagram)



82.Bxc4? 0.03/22
[82.Re7+!+- 2.27/23 Kd8 83.Rb7 Rd1+ 84.Kc5 *(84.Kxc4 Nd7+-)*]
82...Rd1+= The position is equal.
83.Kc3 Rc1+ 84.Kd4 Rd1+ 85.Bd3 Nc6+ 86.Kc5 Nxe5 87.Bxa6 Nd7+ 88.Kc4 Rd6 89.Rxd6 Kxd6 Weighted Error Value: White=0.30/ Black=0.28 (precise) **90.b5**
½-½

81 **C11**
□ **Corfield,J..** **2762**
■ **Ernst,Heinz** **2777**
corr Afroatin Indiv.Prelim1 (10) 21.04.21
[Nastasio,D, MH]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6**
[3...Bb4]
4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2
[5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 *(7...a6)* 8.Nxd4 Qb6 9.Qd2 Qxb2 10.Rb1 Qa3 11.Bb5 Nxd4 12.Bxd4 a6 13.Bxd7+ Bxd7 14.Rb3 Qe7 15.Rxb7

A) 15...Rc8 16.0-0
A1) 16...Qd8 17.Rf3 Rc4 18.Ne2 Qc8 19.Rb2 Bc5 20.h3 0-0 21.Kh2 f6 *(21...Qc7)* 22.exf6 gxf6 23.Bxc5 Rxc5 24.Rg3+ Kh8 25.Nd4 Rg8 26.Rbb3 Rxg3 27.Rxg3 Qf8 28.Qe3;
A2) 16...Qa3
A2a) 17.f5 Bc5 18.fxe6 *(18.Ne2 exf5 19.Qg5 g6 20.Kh1 Be7 21.Qd2 Be6 22.Bg1)* 18...Bxe6 19.Ne2 0-0 20.Rb3 Bxd4+ 21.Nxd4 Qxa2 22.Rg3 Qb2 23.Rb3 Qa2 24.h4 Rb8 25.Rg3 Rb1 26.Rxb1 Qxb1+ 27.Kh2 Kh8 28.Rxg7 Kxg7 29.Qg5+;
A2b) 17.Rfb1 Bc5 18.Ne2 Bxd4+ 19.Nxd4 Rc4 20.f5 exf5 21.e6 fxe6 22.Rb8+ Rc8 23.Rxc8+ Bxc8 24.Nxe6 Qd6 25.Nxg7+ Kf7 26.Nh5 Re8 27.Nf4 *(27.Rf1 d4 28.Nf4 Bb7)* 27...Re4 28.Nd3;

B) 15...Qh4+
B1) 16.Bf2 Qd8 17.Bb6 Qc8 18.Rc7 Qd8 19.Qd4 Ba3 20.Nb1 Be7 21.c4 Rc8 22.Rb7 Bb4+ 23.Kf2 Qxb6 24.Rxb6 Bc5 25.Rd1 Bxd4+ 26.Rxd4 dxc4 27.Nc3 Rc7 28.Rxa6 Ke7 29.Rb6 Ra8 30.Ke3 h5 *(30...Ra3 31.Kd2 Ra5 32.g3 f6 33.exf6+ gxf6 34.Kc1)* 31.Rb4 Ra3 32.Kd2 f6 33.Rdxc4 *(33.exf6+ gxf6 34.Rdxc4 Rxc4 35.Rxc4 h4 36.Kc2 Ra8)* 33...Rxc4 34.Rxc4 fxe5 35.fxe5 Ra5 36.Re4 Bc6;
B2) 16.Qf2
B2a) 16...Qxf2+ 17.Kxf2 Be7
B2a1) 18.Rhb1 Bd8 *(18...Bc8 19.R7b3 0-0 20.Na4)* 19.Rb8 Rxb8 20.Rxb8 0-0 21.Rb7 Bc6 22.Ra7 a5 *(22...Ba5 23.Rxa6 Bxc3 24.Bxc3 Rc8 25.Ke3)* 23.Bc5 Re8 24.g3;
B2a2) 18.Nd1 Bd8 19.Ne3 Bc6 20.Rb2 0-0 21.Bc5 Re8 22.c4 f6 23.cxd5 exd5 24.Bd6 fxe5 25.fxe5 d4 26.Nf5 d3 27.Ke3 Bb5;
B2b) 16...Be7 17.g3 *(17.Qxh4 Bxh4+ 18.Kd2 Bd8 19.Rhb1 Bc6 20.Rb8 Rxb8 21.Rxb8 0-0 22.Rc8 Bb7 23.Rb8 Bc6 24.Rc8 Bb7 25.Rb8)* 17...Qh3 18.Kd2 Bd8 19.Rhb1 Bc6 20.Bc5 Bxb7 21.Rxb7 Rc8 22.Kc1 *(22.Ne4 dxe4 23.Qd4 Qg2+ 24.Kc1 Bc7 25.Qa4+ Kd8 26.Qd4+)* 22...f6 23.Nxd5 exd5 24.Qe2 Rc7 25.Rxc7 Bxc7 26.exf6+ Kd7 27.f7 Bd6 28.Bxd6 Kxd6 29.Qe5+ Kd7 30.Qxg7 Qf1+ 31.Kd2 Qf2+]

5...c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4
[7.Nf3 cxd4 8.cxd4 f6 9.exf6 Nxf6 10.Ng3 *(10.Nc3 Bd6 11.Bd3 0-0 12.0-0 Bd7)* 10...Qb6 11.Bd3 *(11.a3 e5 12.dxe5 Ng4)* 11...Bb4+ 12.Bd2 Nxd4 13.Nxd4 Qxd4 14.0-0 0-0 15.Ne2 Qb6 16.Be3 Bc5 17.Bxc5 Qxc5 18.Qc1 Qd6 19.f4 Qb6+ 20.Kh1 Bd7 21.Qc3 Bb5 22.Bxb5 Qxb5]

7...Be7
[7...Qb6 8.Nf3
A) 8...Be7 9.g3 *(9.a3)* 9...0-0

10.Bh3 cxd4 11.cxd4 f6
A1) 12.Rf1 Kh8 13.Rf2 fxe5 14.fxe5 Ndxe5 15.dxe5 Bb4+ 16.Nc3 Nxe5
A1a) 17.a3 Bc5 18.Rf1 Nxf3+ 19.Rxf3 Bd7 20.Bf4 *(20.b4 Bf2+ 21.Kf1 Bd4 22.Bb2 Bxc3 23.Bxc3 Ba4)* 20...Bc6 21.Be5 d4 22.Rxf8+ Rxf8 23.Qg4 Rf7;
A1b) 17.Qe2 Nxf3+ 18.Rxf3 Rxf3 19.Qxf3 e5 20.Bxc8 Rxc8 21.a3 Qg1+ 22.Qf1 Bxc3+ 23.bxc3 Qxh2;
A2) 12.Bxe6+ Kh8 13.exf6 *(13.Bxd5 fxe5 14.fxe5 Ndxe5 15.dxe5 Nxe5 16.Bf4 Nxf3+ 17.Bxf3 Bb4+ 18.Nc3 Re8+ 19.Kf1 Bh3+ 20.Bg2 Qa6+ 21.Kf2 Bc5+ 22.Kf3 Qc6+ 23.Qd5 Rad8 24.Qxc6 Rd3+)* 13...Nxf6 14.Bxc8 Bb4+ 15.Kf1 Raxc8 16.Kg2 Ne4 17.Qd3 Na5 18.Ne5 Qa6 19.b3 Qxd3 20.Nxd3 Bd6 21.Nc5 Nxc5 22.dxc5 Bxc5 23.Rd1 Rfd8 24.Rb1 Nc6 25.Bd2 Kg8 26.Be1 g6 27.b4 Bf8 28.Rb3 Rd7 29.b5 Ne7 30.Kf3 Bg7;

B) 8...f6
B1) 9.g3 cxd4 *(9...Be7)* 10.cxd4 Bb4+ 11.Nc3 0-0 12.a3 Be7 13.Bh3 fxe5 14.Bxe6+ Kh8 15.Nxd5 Qd8 16.Bxd7 Bxd7 *(16...Qxd7 17.Nxe7 Qxe7 18.dxe5 Bg4 19.0-0 Qc5+ 20.Kg2 Qc4 21.b3 Qe6 22.Ng5 Qc8)* 17.dxe5 Bg4 18.0-0 *(18.h3 Bxf3 19.Qxf3 Nxe5 20.Qe4 Nd7 21.0-0 Nf6)* 18...Bc5+ 19.Be3 Bxe3+ 20.Nxe3 Qb6 21.Qd2 Bxf3 22.Rxf3 Nd4 23.Rff1 Nb3 24.Qf2 Nxa1 25.Rxa1 Rae8 26.Rc1 g5 27.Ng4 Qxf2+ 28.Kxf2 gxf4 29.Rc7;
B2) 9.a3 Be7 10.h4 0-0 11.Rh3 a5 12.b3 Qc7 13.Neg1 b6 14.h5 Ba6 15.Bxa6 Rxa6 16.exf6 Bxf6 17.h6 g6 18.Qe2 Raa8 *(18...b5 19.Qxe6+ Kh8)* 19.Qxe6+ Kh8 20.Ne2 cxd4 21.cxd4 Nxd4 22.Nfxd4 Bxd4 23.Nxd4 Rfe8 24.Bb2 Nf6 25.Re3 Rxe6 26.Nxe6 Qe7 27.Rc1]

8.Nf3 f6 9.Be3
[9.g3 Qb6 10.Bh3 cxd4 11.cxd4 0-0]

9...0-0 10.g3 Qb6 11.Qd2 -0.40/20
[11.Qb3 Na5 *(11...fxe5* 0.50/23 11…Na5 0.07 *12.dxe5 Qxb3 13.axb3 Ndb8 14.Nc1 b6 15.h4 a5 16.Kf2 Na6 17.Bb5 Bb7 18.Rd1 Nc7 19.Bd3 d4! 20.cxd4 cxd4 21.Bd2 h6 22.h5 Rad8 23.Bg6 Na6 24.Nd3; 11...Qa6 12.Qc2* Wards off Qd3 *fxe5 13.dxe5 b5; 11...cxd4 12.Qxb6 axb6 13.Nexd4 Nc5 14.a3)* 12.Qxb6 axb6 13.Nd2 b5 14.exf6 gxf6 *(14...Rxf6)* 15.f5 e5 16.dxc5! Rd8 17.Bg2 Bxc5 18.Bh6! d4! 19.Ne4 Nc4 20.b3 Nd6 21.Nxd6 Bxd6 22.cxd4 0.07/19 *(22.g4!± 0.43/23)* 22...exd4= 23.Nxd4 Nc5 24.Bd5+ Kh8]
[11.Bh3 -0.58/19 11.Qb3 0.21 cxd4!
A) 12.Bxe6+ Kh8 13.Bxd7 *(13.cxd4* -1.48/19 13.Bxd7 -0.60 *Ndxe5)* 13...Bxd7 14.Bxd4 Qxb2 15.exf6 gxf6;
B) 12.cxd4 -0.85/18 12.Bxd4 -0.45 fxe5 13.Bxe6+ Kh8 14.0-0 e4 15.Ng5 Nf6 16.Nf7+? -3.28/33 *(16.f5∓* -0.75/22 *)* 16...Rxf7!-+ 17.Bxf7 Nd8;
C) 12.Bxd4 Nxd4 13.Nexd4 fxe5

14.fxe5 Qxb2 *(14...Nc5)* 15.Bxe6+ Kh8 16.0-0 Qxc3 17.Qb3 Qxb3 18.axb3 Nc5 19.Ng5 Rxf1+ 20.Rxf1 Bxe6 21.Ngxe6 Nxe6 22.Nxe6]

[11.Qb3= 0.10/23]

11...cxd4!∓

[11...fxe5 0.28/22 11...cxd4 -0.12 12.dxe5 Rd8

A) 13.Bh3 0.05/19 13.Qc2 0.48 d4! 14.Bf2 d3 0.54/20 *(14...dxc3! 15.Qxc3 Nf8! 16.0-0 Qa6 17.Nc1* Inhibits Rd3. *b6; 14...dxc3!=* 0.04/23 *15.Qxc3 Nf8)* 15.Nc1!± Nf8 0.86/23 *(15...Qa6±* 0.45/22 *)* 16.b3 0.28/22 *(16.b4;* White should try *16.b4±* 0.86/23 *)* 16...Qa6= 17.a4 b5 18.0-0 Bb7! 19.Ra2 -0.46/23 *(* White should play *19.Bg4=* 0.27/23 *)* 19...b4!∓ *(19...c4 20.axb5 Qxb5 21.bxc4 Qxc4)* 20.c4 Na5 21.Be3 Nxc4! 22.bxc4 Qxc4 23.f5 exf5 24.Bxf5 Qd5 25.Bxd3 c4 26.Bb1 Qc6 27.Qe1 Ng6 28.Raf2 Nxe5 29.Ne2 Rd3 30.Ned4 Qd5 31.Bxd3 Nxd3 32.Qd2 Nxf2 33.Rxf2 Rf8 34.h4 c3 35.Qd3 Bc5 36.Bf4 Rd8 37.Be5 Re8 0-1 9.Nd2 a5/ 14.Qc2 Ngf6 15.Bd3 (2730)-Winter (2628) Moscow IT 3rd 1936;

B) 13.Bf2 d4 14.Bg2 dxc3 15.Qxc3 Qa6 16.Rd1! b5 17.0-0 Bb7 18.Nd2 Rac8 19.Ne4 b4! Dodges Qa3 20.Qe3 Qxa2 21.b3 -0.11/22 *(⌓21.Bh3* 0.30/21 *Nd4 22.Nxd4 cxd4 23.Qxd4)* 21...Qa6= 22.Ra1 Qb6 23.Rfd1 Nf8 24.Rxd8 Nxd8 25.Nd2 Ba6 0.26/22 *(⌓25...Bxg2* -0.20/21 *26.Kxg2 Nf7)* 26.Qe4 -0.34/23 *(26.f5!=* 0.26/22 *)* 26...Bb5∓ 27.Nc4]

[11...cxd4!? 12.Nexd4 Nc5±]

12.Nfxd4N -0.36/22

[12.cxd4 -0.91/23 12.Nexd4 -0.12 fxe5! 13.dxe5 Bc5]

[12.Nexd4

A) 12...Ncxe5 0.93/20 12...fxe5 -0.06 13.fxe5 fxe5 14.Nf5 Bc5 15.Bxc5

A1) 15...Nxc5 2.12/21 15...Qxc5 0.99 16.Ne7+ Kh8 17.Nxe5 Ne4 18.Qd4 Qxb2 19.Rd1 Qf2+ 2.94/5 *(⌓19...Qa3* 1.80/22 *)* 20.Qxf2+- Nxf2 21.Rd4! White wants to mate with N5g6+! Nxh1? #2/16 *(21...g5+-* 2.83/20 *)* 22.N5g6+! hxg6 23.Rh4#;

A2) 15...Qxc5 16.b4 Qb6 17.Ne7+;

B) 12...fxe5 13.Nxe6 d4!

B1) 14.Nxf8? -1.91/16 14.Bf2 -0.17 dxe3

B1a) 15.Bc4+ -2.56/22 15.Qd5+ -1.69 Kh8! 16.Qd5 *(16.Ng6+ hxg6 17.Qg2 Nc5)* 16...Nf6 Dodges Qg8+;

B1b) 15.Qd5+

B1b1) 15...Kxf8? 1.34/22 15...Kh8 -2.19 16.Bc4 Ke8 17.Qg8+ Nf8 18.0-0-0 Nd8 Against Qf7+ *(18...Bd7* 2.80/18 18...Nd8 1.52 *19.Rhe1 exf4 20.Ng5!)* 19.Nxe5 Be6 20.Bxe6 Qxe6 21.Qxe6 *(21.Qxg7* 0.87/22 21.Qxe6 1.45 *Nc6)* 21...Nfxe6 22.Rhe1;

B1b2) 15...Kh8! 16.0-0-0 *(16.Bc4 Nf6* Prevents Qg8+ *17.Qb5 Qxb5 18.Bxb5 e4; 16.Nxd7* -3.07/19 16.0-0-0 -1.68 *Qxb2)* 16...Nxf8 17.Bc4

Be6;

B2) 14.Bf2! Re8 next ...Na5 is good for Black. 15.Be2!

B2a) 15...Bc5 16.Nxc5 Nxc5 17.Ng5 Prevents Ne4. *(17.0-0 Ne4 18.Qc2 Nxf2! 19.Bc4+ Kh8 20.Qxf2 e4 21.Ng5 h6 22.Nf7+ Kh7 23.Nd6 Be6 24.cxd4 Nxd4)* 17...h6 18.Bc4+ Ne6 19.Ne4 Kh8! 20.0-0-0 Nc5 21.Nd6 Na5 22.fxe5 Nxc4 23.Nxc4 Qa6! 24.Qxd4 b6 25.Nd6 Be6 26.Qb4 Nd3+ 27.Rxd3 Qxd3 28.Nxe8 Rxe8;

B2b) 15...Na5 16.f5 Nf6! 17.Nxe5 Bxe6 18.Bxd4 Bc5! 19.fxe6 Bxd4 20.cxd4 Rad8! 21.b4 Rxd4 22.bxa5 Qd6 23.Nd3 0-0 is the strong threat. Qxe6]

[12.Nexd4!? fxe5 13.Nxe6=]

[12.Nexd4= 0.10/24 fxe5 13.Nxe6]

12...Nc5 0.20/23

[12...Bc5

A) 13.b4 Nxb4!

A1) 14.Rb1 -1.59/21 14.cxb4 -0.81 fxe5 15.fxe5? -4.18/21 *(15.Bg2 -1.67/21)* 15...Nxe5-+ 16.cxb4 Nf3+ 17.Nxf3 Bxe3;

A2) 14.cxb4 Bxb4 15.Nc3 fxe5 16.fxe5 Nxe5;

B) 13.exf6! Nxf6

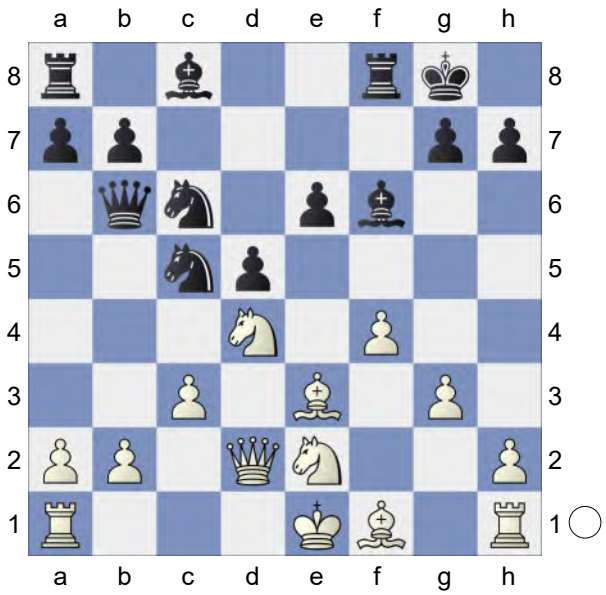
B1) 14.b4 -1.42/20 14.Bg2 -0.40 Nxb4! 15.Rb1? -3.37/19 *(15.Bg2∓ -1.31/21 Nc6 16.Qd3)* 15...Ne4-+ 16.Qd1 e5! 17.fxe5 Rf3 *(17...Bg4)* 18.Nxf3 Bxe3 19.Qb3 Nc5 20.Qxb4 Nd3+;

B2) 14.Bg2 e5 15.fxe5 Ne4! 16.Bxe4 dxe4 17.b4! Nxb4! 18.cxb4 Bxb4 19.Nc3 Qa5! 20.Rc1 Bh3]

[12...Bc5∓ -0.36/22 13.b4 Nxb4 14.cxb4 Bxb4 Pin]

13.exf6= Bxf6

[13...gxf6]



14.Nb3! Discovered Attack **14...Ne4** Wards off Bg2 **15.Qd3**

[15.Bxb6 Nxd2 16.Bc5 Nxf1 *(16...Nxb3 0.49/19 16...Nxf1 0.09 17.axb3)* 17.Bxf8 Ne3 18.Kf2 Ng4+ 19.Kf3 e5 *(19...Nge5+ 20.fxe5 Nxe5+ 21.Kg2 Kxf8)*

A) 20.Bc5 b6 21.Bg1 -0.89/21 *(21.Ba3!= 0.00/20 remains equal.)* 21...Bf5;

B) 20.h3 e4+ 21.Kg2 Ne3+ 22.Kf2 Nc4! 23.Bc5 Nxb2 24.Bd4]

15...Qc7 16.Bg2 Nd6

[16...b6 17.0-0 a5 18.Rfe1 *(18.Bxe4 -0.60/20 18.Rfe1 0.22 dxe4 19.Qxe4 Bb7)* 18...Ba6 19.Qd1

A) 19...Rae8 20.Ned4 Nxd4 0.55/21 *(20...a4= 0.06/23 21.Nxc6 Qxc6)* 21.Bxd4;

B) 19...a4 20.Nbd4 Nxd4 21.Nxd4 *(21.Bxd4 a3)* 21...Nc5! 22.b4 Nd3 23.Nxe6 Qxc3 24.Bxd5! Kh8

25.Rb1 Rad8 *(25...Nxe1 26.Qxe1 Rae8! 27.Qxc3 Bxc3 28.Nxf8 Rxe3 29.Ne6 Re1+ 30.Rxe1 Bxe1)* 26.Nxd8 Rxd8 27.b5 Nxe1 28.Qxe1 Qxe1+ 29.Rxe1 Bxb5]

17.Bf2 Nc4 0.42/25

[17...a5= 0.04/21 deserves consideration.]

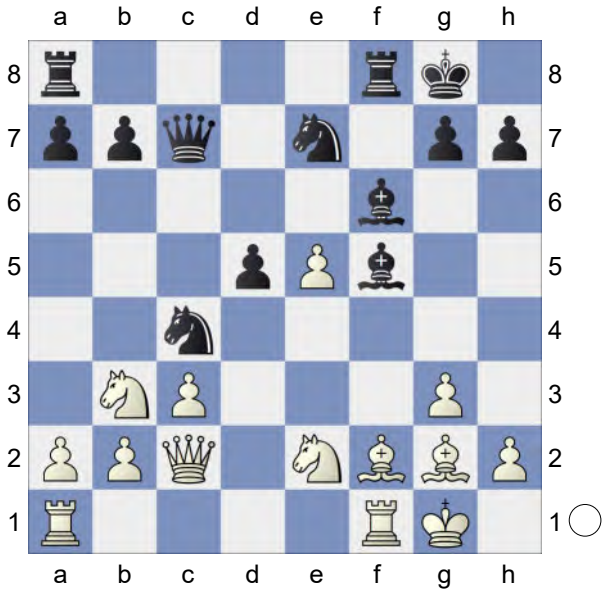
18.Qc2± Ne7 19.0-0

[19.Nbd4 -0.01/25 19.Nd2 0.38 e5 20.fxe5 Qxe5 21.0-0 Nf5]

19...e5 20.fxe5 Bf5

[20...Bxe5 1.01/18 20...Bf5 0.58 21.Ned4]

[20...Qxe5 21.Bd4 Qg5 22.Rae1 Ne3 23.Bxe3 Qxe3+ 24.Kh1]



21.exf6 0.08/17 **Bxc2= 22.fxe7 Rfe8! 23.Nf4!** Really sharp!

[23.Bxd5+ -0.52/5 23.Nf4 0.00 Kh8 24.Nc5 Ne5]

[23.Bxd5+?! Kh8±]

23...Nb6

[23...Rxe7? 4.16/22 23...Nb6 0.00 24.Nxd5 Qd8 25.Nxe7+ Qxe7 26.Bd5+]

[23...Rxe7? 24.Nxd5 Qd8 25.Nxe7+ Qxe7 26.Bd5+ Kh8 27.Bxc4+-]

24.Nxd5 -1.73/19

[24.Bxb6 Qxb6+ 25.Nd4 Be4! 26.Nxd5 Bxd5 27.Bxd5+ Kh8 28.Rf7! Qc5 29.Bxb7 Rab8 30.Raf1! b4 would now be deadly. g6 31.b4 Qxc3 32.Nc6

A) 32...Rxb7 33.Rf8+ Kg7 34.Rxe8 Qe3+ *(34...Qxc6 35.Rg8+! Kxg8 36.Rf8+ Kg7 37.e8Q Qxe8 38.Rxe8 Rxb4 39.Re7+ Kf6 40.Rxa7 h5; 34...Qxc6!? 35.Rg8+□* Decoy *Kxg8 36.Rf8+ Kg7±)*;

B) 32...Rxb7!? 33.Rf8+□ Kg7 34.Rxe8 Qe3+ 35.Rf2 Qc1+ 36.Rf1 Qe3+ 37.Kg2 Qe4+ 38.Kg1 Qe3+=;

C) 32...Qe3+ 33.R1f2 Qe1+ *(33...Rxb7!? 34.Rf8+□ Kg7 35.Rxe8 Qc1+ 36.Rf1 Qe3+ 37.Kh1 Qe4+ 38.Kg1 Qe3+ 39.Kg2 Qe2+ 40.Rf2 Qe4+ 41.Kg1 Qe1+ 42.Kg2 Qe4+ 43.Kg1 Qe1+ 44.Kg2 Qe4+=)* 34.Rf1 Qe3+]

[24.Bd4 Qxe7 25.Nc5 *(25.Nxd5* -1.42/20 25.Nc5 0.01 *Qd6)* 25...Rac8 *(25...Qd6 26.Bh3; 25...Be4 26.Bh3!)* 26.b4 Be4 0.36/21 *(26...Bg6=* 0.00/22 *)* 27.Bh3!± Rc6! 28.Rae1]

[24.Bxb6= 0.00/23 and White has nothing to worry. Qxb6+ 25.Nd4]

24...Nxd5-+ 25.Bxd5+ This pair of bishops is nice. **25...Kh8 26.Nd4 Qd7 27.c4**

[27.Bc4 Be4 28.Be6 Qd6 *(28...Qxe7 29.Rae1)*]

27...Bg6

[27...Bd3 28.Rfd1 Bg6]

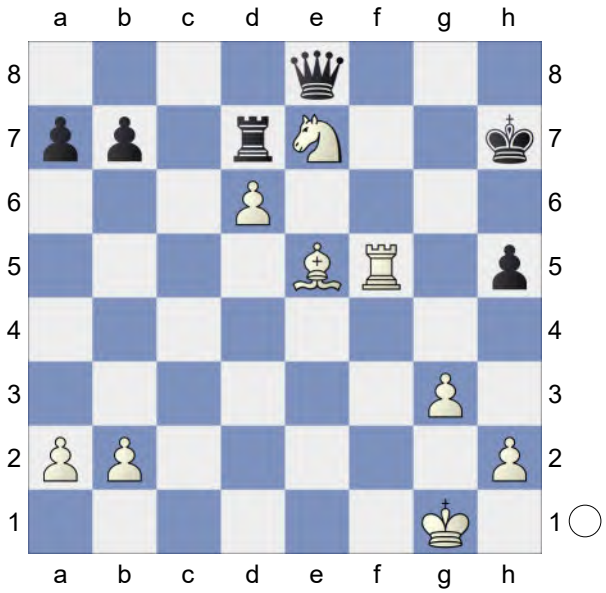
28.Ne6 -2.19/23

[⌓28.Nf3 -1.63/21]

28...Rxe7

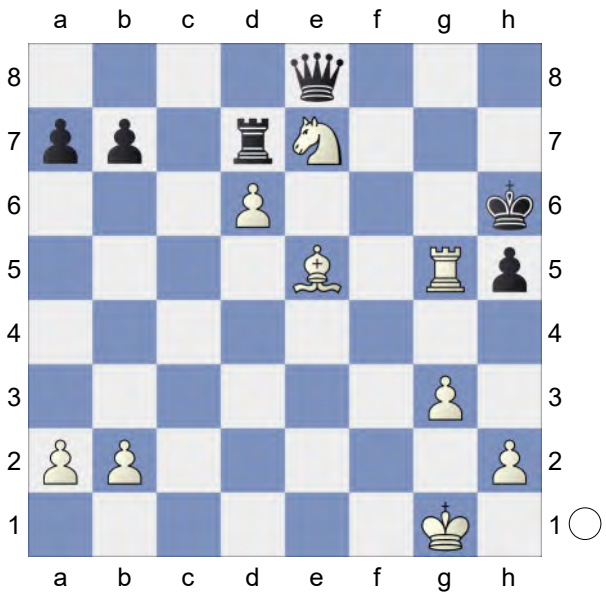
[28...Qxe7 29.Bd4 Rg8 30.Rae1=]

29.Rae1 Bf7
[29...Bf5 30.Nc5 *(30.Ng5* -2.67/21 30.Nc5 -1.87 *h6)* 30...Qc7
A) 31.Rxe7 -2.56/22 31.Nxb7 -1.99 Qxe7 32.Nxb7 Rc8 *(32...Re8?* 0.76/24 32...Rc8 -2.52 *33.Bc5!)*;
B) 31.Nxb7 Rxe1 32.Rxe1 Bg6! 33.Nd6 Rf8 34.Nb5 *(34.c5?* -4.87/21 34.Nb5 -2.71 *Rxf2)* 34...Qa5]
[29...Rae8 30.Bd4 -2.88/20 *(30.Bc5* -1.62/20 was necessary.*)* 30...h5-+ 31.Nf8 Qg4]
30.Nxg7 Bxd5? 0.10/26
[30...Kxg7 -0.91/30 30...Rxe1 -1.74 31.Bd4+ Kg8 32.Rxe7 Qxe7 33.Rxf7 Qxf7 34.Bxf7+ Kxf7 35.Kf2]
[30...Rxe1! 31.Bxe1
A) 31...Bxd5 0.00/25 31...Kxg7 -1.36 32.Nh5
A1) 32...Qh3 33.Bc3+ Kg8 34.Nf6+ Kf7 0.67/20 *(34...Kf8=* 0.30/24 *35.Nxd5+* Discovered Attack (Check) *Ke8)* 35.Nxd5+;
A2) 32...Qc6 33.Bc3+ Kg8 34.Nf6+;
B) 31...Kxg7 32.Rxf7+ Qxf7 33.Bxf7 -1.72/18 *(33.Bc3+∓* -1.35/26 was called for. *Kg8 34.Bxf7+ Kxf7 35.c5)* 33...Kxf7]
[30...Rxe1!∓ -1.45/29 31.Bxe1 Kxg7 *(31...Bxd5 32.Nh5=)* 32.Rxf7+ *(32.Bc3+ Kg8∓)* 32...Qxf7 33.Bxf7 Kxf7]
31.Rxe7= Deflection
[31.Bd4? -3.78/24 31.Rxe7 0.06 Rxg7]
[31.Rxe7!? Qxe7 32.Bd4±]
31...Qxe7 32.Nf5 Qf8 0.51/25 (→ ...Qe1!)
[32...Qg5 0.57/23 32...Qe4 0.04 33.Bd4+ Kg8 34.h4! Qxf5! 35.Rxf5]
[32...Qe4!= 0.01/26 33.Bd4+ Qxd4+ 34.Nxd4 Bxc4]
33.Bd4+± Intending Xe7 and mate.
33...Kg8 34.cxd5 h5 0.03/27
[34...h6! 35.d6 *(35.Rf4* 0.00/31 35.d6 0.58 *Rd8 36.Rg4+ Kf7 37.Rf4 Kg8)* 35...Kh7 36.Ne7]
[But not 34...Rd8? 35.d6 Rxd6 36.Bc5+-]
[Better is 34...h6± 0.71/24]
35.d6= The position is equal. **35...Kh7**
36.Ne7 Qe8 37.Rf6
[37.Rf5 Black must now prevent h4. Rd8
A) 38.Rg5 Rg7+ would kill now. Qf7 39.Be5 Hoping for Rf5. *(39.Rf5 Qe8; 39.Rf5!? Qe8□ 40.Be5=)* 39...Qf3;
B) 38.Rg5!? Qf7□ 39.Rf5±;
C) 38.Be5
C1) 38...Rd7 0.75/23 38...Kh6 0.12



39.Rg5! Threatening mate with Rg7+. Kh6

(Diagram)



40.Rg7 0.36/22 *(40.Bf6!± 1.35/22)* 40...Rxe7!± 41.dxe7 Qc6;

C2) 38...Kh6! 39.h4 Rd7! 40.Bf4+ *(40.Ng8+ Qxg8 41.Bf4+ Kg6 42.Rg5+ Kf7 43.Rxg8 Kxg8 44.Kg2* And now g4! would win. *Kf7 45.Kf3 Ke6 46.g4 hxg4+ 47.Kxg4 Rg7+ 48.Bg5* Threatens to win with h5. *Rf7 49.Bf4* aiming for h5. *Rg7+)*]

37...Rd8 38.Bc3

[38.Be5 Rd7! 39.Rf5 Rxe7 40.dxe7 Qxe7 Strongly threatening ...Qc5+. 41.Rxh5+ Kg6 42.g4 Qf7 43.a3 Qd5]

38...Rxd6 Remove Defender **39.Rxd6 Qxe7 40.Rd4 Kg6 41.a3 Qe3+**

Black had all chances to win. Weighted Error Value: White=0.16 (very precise) / Black=0.19 (very precise)

½-½

82 **C11**

□ **Buchicchio,Gianpaolo** **2762**

■ **Vit Spelar Sgf3** **2746**

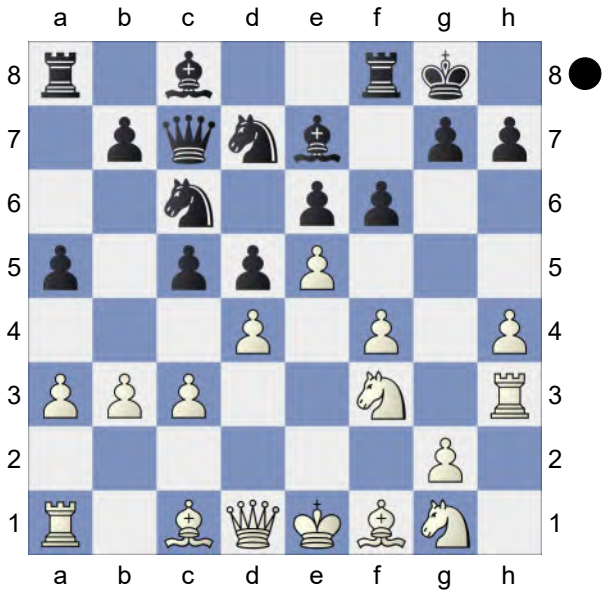
ICCF GMN/066 email (7.4) 24.12.2000

[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.f4 Nc6 7.c3 Qb6 8.Nf3 f6 9.a3 Be7 10.h4 0-0 11.Rh3 a5 12.b3** -0.49/22

[12.a4= -0.06/21]

12...Qc7∓ 13.Neg1



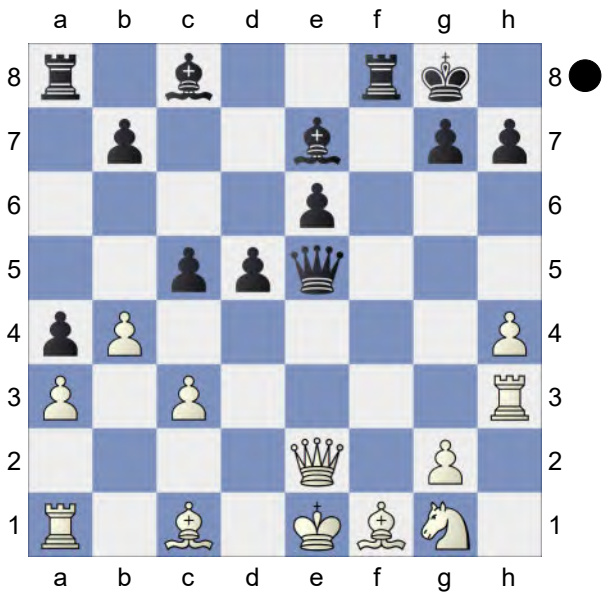
a4 0.00/21 **14.b4= fxe5 15.fxe5 Ndxe5 16.dxe5N Nxe5 17.Nxe5**

[17.Bg5 simplifies Nc6 18.Bxe7 Nxe7 19.Qe2]

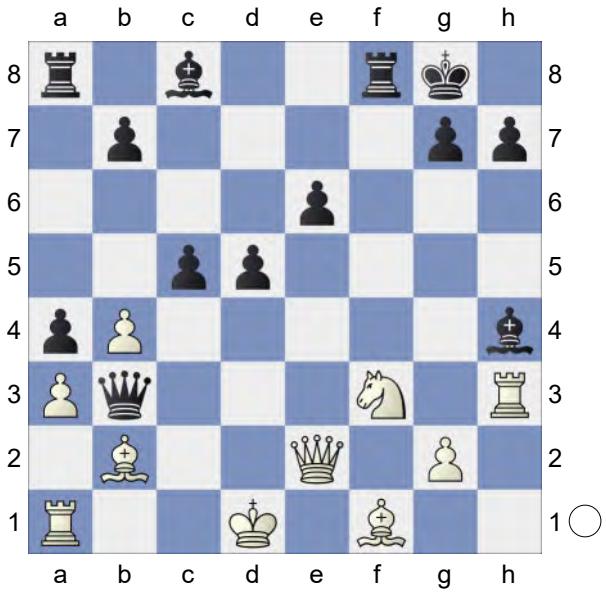
17...Qxe5+ 18.Qe2 -0.37/19

[18.Ne2!= 0.00/21 deserves consideration.]

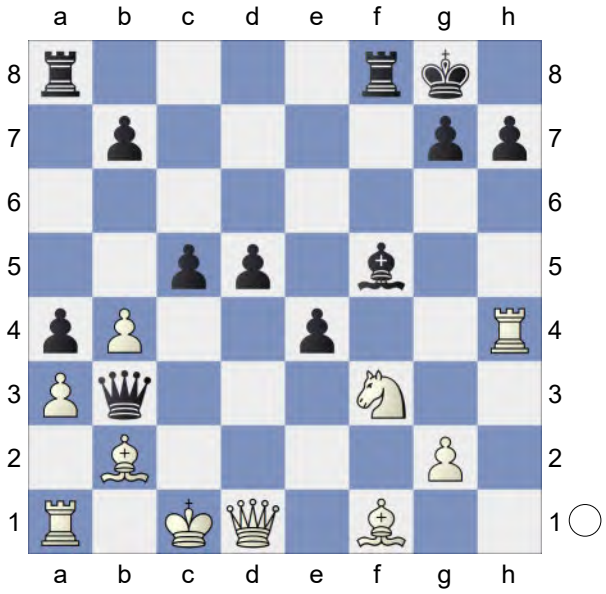
(Diagram)



18...Bxh4+ 0.42/21 **19.Kd1!±** **Qf6** 2.41/21 Loses the game.
[19...Bf6!± 0.35/21]
20.Nf3!+-
[20.Rf3 Qe7=]
20...Qxc3 21.Bb2 Qb3+



22.Kc1! e5 23.Rxh4 Bf5 24.Qd1
[24.bxc5 Rac8 25.Rb4 *(25.Qxe5? Qc2#; 25.Nxe5 Rxc5+-+; 25.Qf2? d4-+)* 25...Rxc5+ 26.Kd2 Rc2+ 27.Kd1 Rxb2+ 28.Rxb3 Rxe2 29.Rxb7 Re4±]
[24.Bxe5?! Rae8 25.Kd2 *(25.bxc5 Rxe5 26.Qb2 Qe3+ 27.Qd2 Qxc5+ 28.Kb2 Be4=)* 25...Bg6+-]
[24.Nxe5 Rac8 25.b5 c4∓]
24...e4



25.Qxb3 axb3 26.Nd2 e3 27.Nf3 Rae8 28.Kd1
[28.bxc5 e2 29.Kd2 exf1R 30.Rxf1 Be4+-]
28...c4 29.Be2 Be4 30.Kc1 Re6 3.42/20
[⌓30...Bd3 2.32/18 31.Rg4 Rf7 32.Bxd3 cxd3]
31.Bc3 Rg6 32.Rh2
[32.Rxe4 dxe4 33.Nd4 *(33.Bxc4+ Kh8±; 33.Nh4 Rc6=)* 33...Rxg2 34.Bxc4+ Kh8±]
32...Bd3 33.Bxd3 cxd3 34.Kb2 d2 35.Kxb3 Rg3 36.Kb2 g5 37.Kc2 Rc8 38.Kd3 g4 39.Be5 White is clearly winning. **39...Rc1 40.Rh1**
[40.Kxe3? is the wrong capture. d1Q *(40...d1R? 41.Rxc1 Rxc1 42.Bxg3+-)* 41.Rxc1 Qxc1+-+]
[40.Nxd2 exd2+ 41.Kxd2 *(41.Bxg3 d1Q+ 42.Ke3 Rc3+ 43.Kf4 Qd4+* Deflection *44.Kg5 Qg7+ 45.Kf5 Qg6+ 46.Ke5 Qe4+ 47.Kf6 Rc6+)* 41...Rxa1 Remove Defender 42.Bxa1

(42.Bxg3 Rxa3 43.Bf4 Rb3+-) 42...Rxa3+-]

40...Rxg2 41.Nh4 Weighted Error Value: White=0.15 (very precise) / Black=0.31

[Don't take 41.Raxc1 dxc1B 42.Rxc1 gxf3 43.Kxe3 Re2+ 44.Kd4 *(44.Kxf3 Rxe5 45.Rc7 Rf5+ 46.Kg3 Rf7=)* 44...Rd2+ 45.Kc5 Kf7+-]

1-0

83 **C11**

□ **Anand,Viswanathan** **2762**

■ **Shirov,Alexei** **2746**

FIDE-Wch k.o. (7.4) 24.12.2000

[Anand,Viswanathan,TA]

1.e4 Anand,Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D Anand Anand Anand Anand,V Needing only a point from 3 games to become World Champion, I decided just to play a normal game and to forget about the score. I had to check all the openings that Alexei plays, but this year we have played a lot of French Defences, so I wondered if he would repeat. Anand: 'Ftacnik Needing only a point from 3 games to become World Champion, I decided just to play a normal game and to forget about the score. I had to check all the openings that Alexei plays, but this year we have played a lot of French Defences, so I wondered if he would repeat.' Anand Anand Anand Anand Anand Anand Anand,V Needing only a point from 3 games to become World Champion, I decided just to play a normal game and to forget about the score. I had to check all the openings that Alexei plays, but this year we have played a lot of French Defences, so I wondered if he would repeat. Anand: 'Ftacnik Needing only a point from 3 games to become World Champion, I decided just to play a normal game and to forget about the score. I had to check all the openings that Alexei plays, but this year we have played a lot of French Defences, so I wondered if he would repeat.' Anand Anand Anand Anand,V Needing only a point from 3 games to become World Champion, I decided just to play a normal game and to forget about the score. I had to check all the openings that Alexei plays, but this year we have played a lot of French Defences, so I wondered if he would repeat. Anand: 'Ftacnik Needing only a point from 3 games to become World Champion, I decided just to play a normal game and to forget about the score. I had to check all the openings that Alexei plays, but this year we have played a lot of French Defences, so I wondered if he would repeat.' Anand: 'ChessPublishing Needing only a point from 3 games to become World Champion, I decided just to play a normal game and to forget about the score. I had to check all the openings that Alexei plays, but this year we have played a lot of French Defences, so I wondered if he would repeat.' Anand, Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'Anand: 'Needing only a point from 3 games to become World Champion, I decided just to play a normal game and to forget about the score. I had to check all the openings that Alexei plays, but this year we have played a lot of French Defences, so I wondered if he would repeat.'' Anand,Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'Anand: 'Needing only a point from 3 games to become World Champion, I decided just to play a normal game and

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4.♗g5, but now it's time to return to "our" main line! I used this against him in Leon and Frankfurt. Against Bareev, I didn't get much from the opening, so in Sydney I deviated with 4. ♗g5, but now it's time to return to "our" main line! Anand,Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'White plays this move to support his centre with c2-c3. This is not the most popular move in the position (5.f4 is the main line), but for a French player (particularly a new one), it is essential to understand the fixed central structure that often arises after this move. Anand: 'I used this against him in Leon and Frankfurt. Against Bareev, I didn't get much from the opening, so in Sydney I deviated with 4. ♗g5, but now it's time to return to "our" main line!'' Anand, Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'White plays this move to support his centre with c2-c3. This is not the most popular move in the position (5.f4 is the main line), but for a French player (particularly a new one), it is essential to understand the fixed central structure that often arises after this move. Anand: 'I used this against him in Leon and Frankfurt. Against Bareev, I didn't get much from the opening, so in Sydney I deviated with 4.♗g5, but now it's time to return to "our" main line!' Anand,Viswanathan: 'I used this against him in Leon and Frankfurt. Against Bareev, I didn't get much from the opening, so in Sydney I deviated with 4.♗g5, but now it's time to return to "our" main line! I used this against him in Leon and Frankfurt. Against Bareev, I didn't get much from the opening, so in Sydney I deviated with 4. ♗g5, but now it's time to return to "our" main line! I used this against him in Leon and Frankfurt. Against Bareev, I didn't get much from the opening, so in Sydney I deviated with 4. ♗g5, but now it's time to return to "our" main line!" **5...c5 6.f4**

[Against 6.c3 cxd4 7.cxd4 f6 Black tried to blast White's centre immediately. White can play 8.f4, but this contains a lot of danger for White.]

6...Nc6 Fairly quickly. Black can go for 6...cxd4, but Alexei had an improvement in mind over our game in Frankfurt. Anand,Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'Anand: 'Fairly quickly. Black can go for 6...cxd4, but Alexei had an improvement in mind over our game in Frankfurt." **7.c3 Qb6** Anand: 'ChessPublishing: 'The main alternative is" Anand,Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'Black has several ways to meet White's solid setup, but this one seems to be the most principled, putting pressure on b2 and d4 pawns.' Anand, Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'Black has several ways to meet White's solid setup, but this one seems to be the most principled, putting pressure on b2 and d4 pawns. Anand,Viswanathan: 'Anand: 'ChessPublishing: 'The main alternative is""

[7...b5 (ChessPublishing) as played in ***** Anand-Shirov and ****Anand-Morozevich, although the Indian Grandmaster won both these games as well! Anand,Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: '!?' '!?' Anand, Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'Anand, Viswanathan: '(ChessPublishing) as played in ***** Anand-Shirov and ****Anand-Morozevich, although the Indian Grandmaster won both these games as well!"]

[7...a5!?]

8.Nf3 Anand,Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'White's central structure seems

extremely solid and provides him with a significant space advantage, so the main question for Black is how to avoid getting gradually squeezed. The answer is:' **8...f6** He played 8...♗e7 in Frankfurt, but we transpose anyway. He played 8...♗e7 in Frankfurt, but we transpose anyway. He played 8... ♗e7 in Frankfurt, but we transpose anyway. Anand: 'He played 8... ♗e7 in Frankfurt, but we transpose anyway. ChessPublishing: 'In their previous game in this line Shirov played'' Anand,Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: '!' '!' Anand,Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'This move increases tension in the centre and creates dynamic possibilities to neutralize White's space advantage. Anand: 'He played 8... ♗e7 in Frankfurt, but we transpose anyway.'' Anand,Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'This move increases tension in the centre and creates dynamic possibilities to neutralize White's space advantage. Anand: 'He played 8... ♗e7 in Frankfurt, but we transpose anyway.' Anand,Viswanathan: 'He played 8... ♗e7 in Frankfurt, but we transpose anyway. He played 8... ♗e7 in Frankfurt, but we transpose anyway. He played 8... ♗e7 in Frankfurt, but we transpose anyway. Anand: 'He played 8... ♗e7 in Frankfurt, but we transpose anyway. ChessPublishing: 'In their previous game in this line Shirov played'''' **9.a3** Anand: 'Ftacnik: '!'' Anand,Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'This is just one of several reasonable developing schemes that White has at his disposal.' Anand,Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'This is just one of several reasonable developing schemes that White has at his disposal. Anand,Viswanathan: 'Anand: 'Ftacnik: '!''''

[Anand,Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'Others are:' 9.g3 (Anand) Ftacnik cxd4 10.cxd4 Bb4+ 11.Bd2 fxe5 12.fxe5 0-0 13.Bxb4 *(13.Bg2 Rxf3!)* 13...Qxb4+ 14.Kf2 Ndxe5! 15.dxe5 Rxf3+! 16.Kxf3 Qe4+ 17.Kf2 Qxh1-+]

[9.h4 ChessPublishing cxd4 10.cxd4 Bb4+ etc.]

[and 9.Ng3]

9...Be7 **10.h4** Anand: 'ChessPublishing: 'Also to be considered was'' Anand,Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: '!?' '!?' Anand,Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'This aggressive plan prepares a kingside attack but leaves White seriously lagging behind in development.' Anand,Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'This aggressive plan prepares a kingside attack but leaves White seriously lagging behind in development. Anand,Viswanathan: 'Anand: 'ChessPublishing: 'Also to be considered was''''

[10.b4 ChessPublishing cxd4 11.Nexd4!? Then Steffen Pedersen won quickly as Black after fxe5 After the usual *(11...Nxd4 12.cxd4* White has a bind and easy development as in I.Almasi-Plischki, Pardubice 2000.*)* 12.fxe5?! The critical test is surely *(12.Nxe6!)* 12...Ndxe5 etc. in Meyer-Pedersen, Germany 1999.]

10...0-0 Anand,Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'The combination of Qb6 and Rf8 is quite unpleasant for White as both heavy pieces gaze at the f2-square. It is clear at this point that Black is getting ready to blow the centre open with some sort of a sacrifice.' **11.Rh3** Sanikidze: 'Intresting idea by Anand, to bring the rook and start early attack on kingside!' Anand: 'ChessPublishing: 'So play has

transposed to their previous game mentioned above. Now Shirov plays an improvement.' ChessPublishing: 'when Black erred with'' Anand,Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'Anand,Viswanathan: 'Sanikidze: 'Intresting idea by Anand, to bring the rook and start early attack on kingside!' Anand: 'ChessPublishing: 'So play has transposed to their previous game mentioned above. Now Shirov plays an improvement.' ChessPublishing: 'when Black erred with""

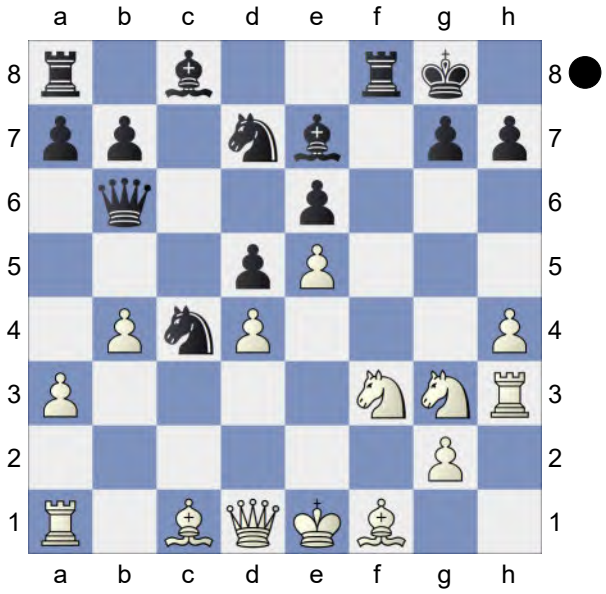
[11.Ng3? cxd4 12.cxd4 fxe5 13.fxe5 Rxf3! 14.gxf3 Nxd4-+]

[11.b4 cxd4 12.cxd4 Qc7 13.Be3 b5!⇄]

11...a5! Anand: "!?' ChessPublishing. ChessPublishing: 'This restrains White from expanding with b2-b4.'' Anand, Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'Anand, Viswanathan: 'Anand: ''!?' ChessPublishing. ChessPublishing: 'This restrains White from expanding with b2-b4.""

[11...Na5? Anand: "?!' ChessPublishing. ' Anand, Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'Anand, Viswanathan: 'Anand: ''?!' ChessPublishing. ''' 12.b4 cxb4 13.axb4 Anand,Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: '!' '!' Nc4 14.Ng3± Anand-Shirov Frankfurt 2000 a5 (Anand) Ftacnik 15.Bd3 f5 16.Ng5 Rd8 17.Qh5 Bxg5 18.Qxg5 Rf8 19.Nh5 Rf7 20.Rg3 1-0 Anand,V-Shirov,A/Frankfurt/2000/ (28)]

[I improved on Shirov's ...Na5 idea in the following game: 11...cxd4!? 12.cxd4 Na5 13.b4 Nc4 14.Ng3? *(14.Nc3∞* was more to the point. This is why White played a3-b4 in the first place. The piece sacrifice: *fxe5 15.fxe5 Ndxe5 16.dxe5 Nxe5 17.Ra2±* doesn't work that well for Black now. *)* 14...fxe5 15.fxe5



Ndxe5! This classical sacrifice is Black's main trump in the position, as we will also see in the main game. 16.dxe5 Nxe5 17.Ra2 Nxf3+ *(17...Ng4!?)* 18.gxf3 e5 19.Rhh2 Be6∓ 1-0 (45) Sammour Hasbun,J (2460) -Kuljasevic,D (2464) ICC INT 2007]

12.b3 Anand: 'ChessPublishing: 'This prevents Black from gaining control of a light square complex on the queenside with a5-a4, when Na5 would follow aiming to play Nb3 or Nc4.'' Anand, Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'Anand, Viswanathan: 'Anand: 'ChessPublishing: 'This prevents Black from gaining control of a light square complex on the queenside with a5-a4, when Na5 would follow aiming to play Nb3 or Nc4.''''

12...Qc7 There are two game with 12... ♕d8, but this move looks much better. For a start, there are possiblities of ♕c3+ in some line... There are two game with 12... ♕d8, but this move looks much better. For a start, there are

possiblities of ♕c3+ in some line... There are two game with 12... ♕d8, but this move looks much better. For a start, there are possiblities of ♕c3+ in some line... Sanikidze: '!' Sanikidze: 'Queen already did his job on b6, so now black has 2 ideas: 1) to play b5-b4 and destroy white pawn structure. 2) sacriface peace on e5 and open white king.' Anand,Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'Anand: There are two games with 12... Qd8, but this move looks much better. For a start, there are possibilities of Qc3+ in some lines... Anand: 'There are two game with 12... ♕d8, but this move looks much better. For a start, there are possiblities of ♕c3+ in some line..." Anand,Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'Anand: There are two games with 12... Qd8, but this move looks much better. For a start, there are possibilities of Qc3+ in some lines... Anand: 'There are two game with 12... ♕d8, but this move looks much better. For a start, there are possiblities of ♕c3+ in some line...' Anand,Viswanathan: 'There are two game with 12... ♕d8, but this move looks much better. For a start, there are possiblities of ♕c3+ in some line... There are two game with 12... ♕d8, but this move looks much better. For a start, there are possiblities of ♕c3+ in some line... There are two game with 12... ♕d8, but this move looks much better. For a start, there are possiblities of ♕c3+ in some line... Sanikidze: '!' Sanikidze: 'Queen already did his job on b6, so now black has 2 ideas: 1) to play b5-b4 and destroy white pawn structure. 2) sacriface peace on e5 and open white king.'"

[12...a4 13.b4]

13.Neg1 Anand: 'Ftacnik: '!?" Anand: 'Ftacnik: '!?'' Anand: 'Ftacnik: '!?'' Anand: 'Ftacnik: 'Anand is toying with fire in a very sharp position, but so far his play is exact.'' Anand: ''!' ChessPublishing. ChessPublishing: 'Very provocative to say the least! This looks slow, but Anand plans a quick redeployment of his pieces with Bd3 and Ne2, when he safeguards his advanced centre and can begin to pressurise Black. '' Anand,Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'Anand,Viswanathan: 'Anand: 'Ftacnik: '!?'' Anand: 'Ftacnik: '!?'' Anand: 'Ftacnik: '!?" Anand: 'Ftacnik: 'Anand is toying with fire in a very sharp position, but so far his play is exact." Anand: "!' ChessPublishing. ChessPublishing: 'Very provocative to say the least! This looks slow, but Anand plans a quick redeployment of his pieces with Bd3 and Ne2, when he safeguards his advanced centre and can begin to pressurise Black.'"' Anand: 'Ftacnik: 'Anand is toying with fire in a very sharp position, but so far his play is exact.'' Anand, Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'Anand, Viswanathan: 'Anand: 'Ftacnik: 'Anand is toying with fire in a very sharp position, but so far his play is exact.""

[13.h5 (Anand) Ftacnik b6 14.g4 cxd4 15.cxd4 fxe5 16.fxe5 Rxf3! 17.Rxf3 Bh4+ 18.Kd2 Bg5+ 19.Ke1 Bh4+ Ajupov,D-Yanturin,A/RUS-ch U16/Russia/2000]

13...a4? There is no need for this. There is no need for this. Anand: 'There is no need for this. ChessPublishing: 'This already has the forthcoming sacrifice in mind. Instead Shipov suggests that Black can quietly complete his development with" Anand,Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'Anand: '?' Anand: 'There is no need for this." Anand,Viswanathan/

Kuljasevic,D: 'Anand: '?' Anand: 'There is no need for this.' Anand,Viswanathan: '?' Anand,Viswanathan: 'There is no need for this. There is no need for this. Anand: 'There is no need for this. ChessPublishing: 'This already has the forthcoming sacrifice in mind. Instead Shipov suggests that Black can quietly complete his development with""

[Anand,Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'Anand recommends another good plan for Black: ' 13...b6 Anand,Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: '!?' '!?'

A) 14.Bd3

A1) 14...Ba6 (Anand) Ftacnik (Anand) Ftacnik Anand: '(ChessPublishing) as there is no mate after' 15.Bxh7+ *(15.Bc2 cxd4 16.cxd4 Rac8)* 15...Kxh7 16.Ng5+ fxg5 17.hxg5+ Kg8 18.Qh5 Bxg5! Anand: 'etc.';

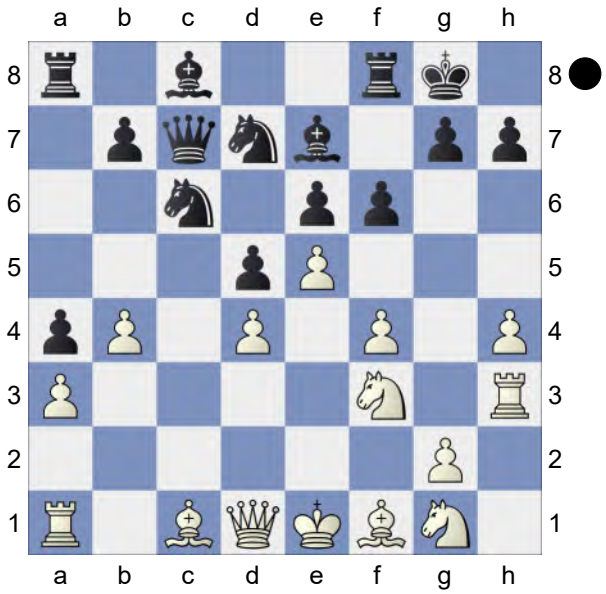
A2) 14...cxd4 15.cxd4 *(15.Bxh7+? Kxh7 16.Ng5+ fxg5 17.hxg5+ Kg8 18.Qh5 Ndxe5 19.fxe5 Qxe5+ 20.Ne2 Ba6)* 15...fxe5 16.fxe5 Nxd4 Anand: 'Ftacnik: '!'' Anand, Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'Anand,Viswanathan: 'Anand: 'Ftacnik: '!"" *(16...Ncxe5)*;

B) 14.h5 (Anand) Ftacnik;

C) 14.Ra2 Ba6 15.Bxa6 Rxa6 16.Re2 Raa8 17.h5 Rac8 18.Bb2 b5∓ 0-1 (46) Hartvig,O (2220)-Brynell,S (2495) Helsingor 2011;

D) 14.Be3 Ba6 15.Bxa6 Rxa6 This looks about equal. Anand, Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'Anand: This looks about equal.']

[I tried a different plan in one of my blitz games: 13...cxd4!? 14.cxd4 a4 15.b4



Nb6! Solving the issue of the passive knight on d7, while also preparing to exchange light-squared bishops via b5-square. 16.Bd3 f5 17.Ne2 Bd7 18.h5 Na7! 19.Ng5 h6 20.Nf3 Bb5∓ 0-1 (42) Vasquez-Kuljasevic, Internet Chess Club 2015]

14.b4 fxe5 15.fxe5 Ndxe5

In this position, such drastic measures are simply necessary. If White can consolidate his centre, then his kingside attack will be overwhelming. Anand: 'In this position, such drastic measures are simply necessary. If White can consolidate his centre, then his kingside attack will be overwhelming. Ftacnik: '!" In this position, such drastic measures are simply necessary. If White can consolidate his centre, then his kingside attack will be overwhelming. Anand: 'In this position, such drastic measures are simply necessary. If White can consolidate his centre, then his kingside attack will be overwhelming. Ftacnik: '!" Anand: 'In this position, such drastic measures are simply necessary. If White can consolidate his centre, then his kingside attack will be overwhelming. '!

ChessPublishing. ChessPublishing: 'The only way to free his game.'' Anand, Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: '!' '!' Anand, Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'Anand: In this position, such drastic measures are simply necessary. If White can consolidate his centre, then his kingside attack will be overwhelming.' Anand, Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'Anand: In this position, such drastic measures are simply necessary. If White can consolidate his centre, then his kingside attack will be overwhelming. Anand, Viswanathan: 'In this position, such drastic measures are simply necessary. If White can consolidate his centre, then his kingside attack will be overwhelming. Anand: 'In this position, such drastic measures are simply necessary. If White can consolidate his centre, then his kingside attack will be overwhelming. Ftacnik: '!'' In this position, such drastic measures are simply necessary. If White can consolidate his centre, then his kingside attack will be overwhelming. Anand: 'In this position, such drastic measures are simply necessary. If White can consolidate his centre, then his kingside attack will be overwhelming. Ftacnik: '!'' Anand: 'In this position, such drastic measures are simply necessary. If White can consolidate his centre, then his kingside attack will be overwhelming. '!' ChessPublishing. ChessPublishing: 'The only way to free his game.''''

[15...cxd4 16.cxd4 Ndxe5 17.dxe5 Nxe5 18.Bb2±]

16.dxe5 Nxe5 17.Nxe5! The best move. White's two knights would keep tripping on each other, so it's useful to exchange one of them. Anand: 'The best move. White's two knights would keep tripping on each other, so it's useful to exchange one of them. Ftacnik: '!?'' Anand, Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'Anand: The best move. White's two knights would keep tripping on each other, so it's useful to exchange one of them.' Anand, Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'Anand: The best move. White's two knights would keep tripping on each other, so it's useful to exchange one of them. Anand, Viswanathan: 'The best move. White's two knights would keep tripping on each other, so it's useful to exchange one of them. Anand: 'The best move. White's two knights would keep tripping on each other, so it's useful to exchange one of them. Ftacnik: '!?''''

[17.Bg5 (Anand) Ftacnik Bd6!∞]

[17.Ra2 (Anand) Ftacnik Nf7∞]

17...Qxe5+ 18.Qe2

[18.Re3? (Anand) Ftacnik Bxh4+ 19.Kd2 Rf2+ 20.Re2 Bg5+ 21.Kc2 Qf5+ 22.Kb2 Rxf1-+]

18...Bxh4+? He played this quite fast, but it's an error. Anand: 'He played this quite fast, but it's an error. Ftacnik: '?!'' He played this quite fast, but it's an error. Anand: 'He played this quite fast, but it's an error. Ftacnik: '?!'' He played this quite fast, but it's an error. Anand: 'He played this quite fast, but it's an error. Ftacnik: '?!'' Sanikidze: 'wrong desicion in better possition. Probably Shirov was very hurry to win...the best option was here to go on c7 with queen and open center with move e5! black had very nice possition in my opinion.' Anand: 'He played this quite fast, but it's an error. '!' ChessPublishing. ChessPublishing: 'Black gains a third pawn for the piece.'' Anand, Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'Anand: He played this quite fast, but it's an error.' Anand,Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D:

'Anand: He played this quite fast, but it's an error. Anand,Viswanathan: 'He played this quite fast, but it's an error. Anand: 'He played this quite fast, but it's an error. Ftacnik: '?!'' He played this quite fast, but it's an error. Anand: 'He played this quite fast, but it's an error. Ftacnik: '?!'' He played this quite fast, but it's an error. Anand: 'He played this quite fast, but it's an error. Ftacnik: '?!'' Sanikidze: 'wrong desicion in better possition. Probably Shirov was very hurry to win... the best option was here to go on c7 with queen and open center with move e5! black had very nice possition in my opinion.' Anand: 'He played this quite fast, but it's an error. '!' ChessPublishing. ChessPublishing: 'Black gains a third pawn for the piece.''' [18...Qc7! Black now follows with e5 which should give him some play. Also, White's king isn't going to be completely safe on the queenside either. Anand: 'Black now follows with e5 which should give him some play. Also, White's king isn't going to be completely safe on the queenside either. Ftacnik: ' ∞!'' Black now follows with e5 which should give him some play. Also, White's king isn't going to be completely safe on the queenside either. Anand: 'Black now follows with e5 which should give him some play. Also, White's king isn't going to be completely safe on the queenside either. Ftacnik: ' ∞!'' Black now follows with e5 which should give him some play. Also, White's king isn't going to be completely safe on the queenside either. Anand: 'Black now follows with e5 which should give him some play. Also, White's king isn't going to be completely safe on the queenside either. Ftacnik: ' ∞!'' Anand: 'Ftacnik: 'Kasparov suggested tactical retreat of the queen, black's chances in a bit irrational position would have been very good.'' Anand,Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'Anand: Black now follows with e5 which should give him some play. Also, White's king isn't going to be completely safe on the queenside either. I should add that modern engines side with Shirov, evaluating this position as slightly better for Black!' Anand,Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'Anand: Black now follows with e5 which should give him some play. Also, White's king isn't going to be completely safe on the queenside either. I should add that modern engines side with Shirov, evaluating this position as slightly better for Black! Anand,Viswanathan: 'Black now follows with e5 which should give him some play. Also, White's king isn't going to be completely safe on the queenside either. Anand: 'Black now follows with e5 which should give him some play. Also, White's king isn't going to be completely safe on the queenside either. Ftacnik: ' ∞!'' Black now follows with e5 which should give him some play. Also, White's king isn't going to be completely safe on the queenside either. Anand: 'Black now follows with e5 which should give him some play. Also, White's king isn't going to be completely safe on the queenside either. Ftacnik: ' ∞!'' Black now follows with e5 which should give him some play. Also, White's king isn't going to be completely safe on the queenside either. Anand: 'Black now follows with e5 which should give him some play.

Also, White's king isn't going to be completely safe on the queenside either. Ftacnik: ' ∞!" Anand: 'Ftacnik: 'Kasparov suggested tactical retreat of the queen, black's chances in a bit irrational position would have been very good.'''' Anand: 'Ftacnik: 'Kasparov suggested tactical retreat of the queen, black's chances in a bit irrational position would have been very good.'' Anand,Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'Anand,Viswanathan: 'Anand: 'Ftacnik: 'Kasparov suggested tactical retreat of the queen, black's chances in a bit irrational position would have been very good.'''' 19.Nf3 *(19.Rf3 Bxh4+ 20.g3 Bf6; 19.Bg5 Bd6* Anand,Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: ' ∓ ' ' ∓ ' Anand, Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: ', which is similar to my game against Sammour Hasbun.' *20.Rf3 Bd7)* 19...e5 20.Qxe5 Qxe5+ 21.Nxe5 Bxh3 22.gxh3 Bf6 23.Bf4 Bxh4+]

[18...Qf6 19.Bg5]

[18...Qf5 19.Rf3]

19.Kd1! Now Black has to exchange queens. Now Black has to exchange queens. Anand: 'Now Black has to exchange queens. ChessPublishing: 'Not'' Anand,Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'Anand: Now Black has to exchange queens.' Anand,Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'Anand: Now Black has to exchange queens. Anand,Viswanathan: 'Now Black has to exchange queens. Now Black has to exchange queens. Anand: 'Now Black has to exchange queens. ChessPublishing: 'Not''''

[19.Rxh4? (Anand) Ftacnik (Anand) Ftacnik Anand: 'ChessPublishing' Qxc3+ *(19...Qg3+)* 20.Kd1 Qxa1-+]

19...Qf6? Anand: 'ChessPublishing: 'Quite understandably Shirov wants to keep the queens on the board and attack the white king. However, it turns out that the calm'' Anand,Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'Anand,Viswanathan: 'Anand: 'ChessPublishing: 'Quite understandably Shirov wants to keep the queens on the board and attack the white king. However, it turns out that the calm''''

[19...Qxe2+ 20.Bxe2 Bf2 21.Be3 *(21.Rh1* (Anand) Ftacnik (Anand) Ftacnik Anand: '!' Anand: 'ChessPublishing' *e5∞* Anand: 'was better, with a continuing initiative though I think White has enough defensive resources to make the assessment 'unclear'.'; *21.Nf3?* ChessPublishing *e5)* 21...e5 22.Bxf2 Rxf2 23.Rg3 I think White has a comfortable edge in the ending. This reminds me of the ending in the Slav, where White is a piece up (1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Nf3 dxc4 5.a4 Bf5 6.Ne5 e6 7.f3 Bb4). Here Black's centre is too loose.]

20.Nf3! **Qxc3?!** Anand: 'ChessPublishing: 'The fourth pawn proves too much for the black queen's digestion, but there was no alternative in view of the hanging bishop.'' Anand,Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'Anand,Viswanathan: 'Anand: 'ChessPublishing: 'The fourth pawn proves too much for the black queen's digestion, but there was no alternative in view of the hanging bishop.''''

[20...g5 21.Nxh4 Qxf1+ 22.Qxf1 Rxf1+ 23.Ke2 Rxc1 24.Rxc1 gxh4 25.Rxh4± White's rooks have all the open files they need!]

[20...e5 (Anand) Ftacnik 21.Rxh4 e4 22.Rf4! Qxc3 23.Qa2 Be6 24.Bd2 Qb3+ 25.Qxb3 axb3 26.Ng5±]

21.Bb2 Now White wins a second piece. **21...Qb3+** **22.Kc1** Anand: "!' ChessPublishing. ChessPublishing: 'Suddenly the black queen is surrounded- if the bishop retreats from h4 then 23 Ne5 is decisive. So Shirov throws in a second piece but against Anand's unperturbable defence it proves fruitless. '' Anand,Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'Anand,Viswanathan: 'Anand: ''!' ChessPublishing. ChessPublishing: 'Suddenly the black queen is surrounded- if the bishop retreats from h4 then 23 Ne5 is decisive. So Shirov throws in a second piece but against Anand's unperturbable defence it proves fruitless. '" **22...e5** The only move - otherwise ♘e5 wins the queen. Anand: 'The only move - otherwise ♘e5 wins the queen. Ftacnik: '!'' The only move - otherwise ♘e5 wins the queen. Anand: 'The only move - otherwise ♘e5 wins the queen. Ftacnik: '!'' The only move - otherwise ♘e5 wins the queen. Anand: 'The only move - otherwise ♘e5 wins the queen. Ftacnik: '!'' Anand,Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'The only move - otherwise Ne5 wins the queen. Anand: 'The only move - otherwise ♘e5 wins the queen."' Anand,Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'The only move - otherwise Ne5 wins the queen. Anand: 'The only move - otherwise ♘e5 wins the queen.' Anand, Viswanathan: 'The only move - otherwise ♘e5 wins the queen. Anand: 'The only move - otherwise ♘e5 wins the queen. Ftacnik: '!'' The only move - otherwise ♘e5 wins the queen. Anand: 'The only move - otherwise ♘e5 wins the queen. Ftacnik: '!'' The only move - otherwise ♘e5 wins the queen. Anand: 'The only move - otherwise ♘e5 wins the queen. Ftacnik: '!""

[22...Bf6 (Anand) Ftacnik 23.Bxf6 *(23.Ne5)* 23...Rxf6 24.Nd2!+-]

23.Rxh4 Obviously a pleasant choice - to win a queen or be two pieces up. I saw that I could swap queens and go into an ending and decided not to bother with the alternative. Still, taking the queen would have finished it earlier. Anand: 'Obviously a pleasant choice - to win a queen or be two pieces up. I saw that I could swap queens and go into an ending and decided not to bother with the alternative. Still, taking the queen would have finished it earlier. Ftacnik: '!'' Anand,Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'Obviously a pleasant choice - to win a queen or be two pieces up. I saw that I could swap queens and go into an ending and decided not to bother with the alternative. Still, taking the queen would have finished it earlier. Anand, Viswanathan: 'Obviously a pleasant choice - to win a queen or be two pieces up. I saw that I could swap queens and go into an ending and decided not to bother with the alternative. Still, taking the queen would have finished it earlier. Anand: 'Obviously a pleasant choice - to win a queen or be two pieces up. I saw that I could swap queens and go into an ending and decided not to bother with the alternative. Still, taking the queen would have finished it earlier. Ftacnik: '!""

[23.Nd2 Bxh3 24.Nxb3

A) 24...Bg4 Anand: 'Ftacnik: '!" Anand,Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'Anand,Viswanathan: 'Anand: 'Ftacnik: '!''" 25.Qxg4 *(25.Qd3* (Anand) Ftacnik *Bg5+±)* 25...Rxf1+ 26.Kc2 axb3+ 27.Kxb3 c4+ 28.Ka2+- White just collects all the pawns.;

B) 24...Rf2 25.Qb5 *(25.Qd1 Bg5+ 26.Kb1 Bf5+ 27.Bd3 e4 28.Bc2 axb3 29.Qxd5+ Kh8 30.Qxb3+-)* 25...Bg5+ 26.Kb1 Bf5+ 27.Bd3 axb3 28.Bxf5 Rxf5 29.bxc5+-]

[23.Qxe5? (Anand) Ftacnik Bf6 24.Nd2 Bxh3 25.Nxb3 Bxe5-+]

23...Bf5 **24.Qd1** Anand: 'Ftacnik: 'Black's fate is sealed despite phenomenal center, white has two extra light pieces.'' Sanikidze: 'now possition is totaly lossing...' Anand,Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'Anand,Viswanathan: 'Anand: 'Ftacnik: 'Black's fate is sealed despite phenomenal center, white has two extra light pieces.'' Sanikidze: 'now possition is totaly lossing...'" Anand: 'Ftacnik: 'Black's fate is sealed despite phenomenal center, white has two extra light pieces.'' Anand,Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'Anand,Viswanathan: 'Anand: 'Ftacnik: 'Black's fate is sealed despite phenomenal center, white has two extra light pieces.''"

[24.Bxe5 (Anand) Ftacnik cxb4! 25.Kd2±]

24...e4 Anand: 'Ftacnik: '!'' Anand, Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'Anand, Viswanathan: 'Anand: 'Ftacnik: '!''"

[24...Qe3+ 25.Qd2]

25.Qxb3 **axb3** **26.Nd2** Harvesting all these pawns is going to take a while, but basically the evaluation of the position is clear - White is winning. Anand,Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'Harvesting all these pawns is going to take a while, but basically, the evaluation of the position is clear - White is winning. Anand: 'Harvesting all these pawns is going to take a while, but basically the evaluation of the position is clear - White is winning.''

26...e3

[26...c4 27.Bd4+-]

27.Nf3

[27.Nxb3 Bg6 28.Be2 Rf2 Anand: 'Ftacnik: ' ⇄ '' Anand, Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'Anand, Viswanathan: 'Anand: 'Ftacnik: ' ⇄''" 29.Kd1 Rxg2 30.Rg4+-]

27...Rae8

[⌓27...c4 (Anand) Ftacnik 28.Bc3 Rae8 29.Be2+-]

[27...cxb4 28.Rxb4 Rac8+ 29.Kd1 Rc2 30.Rxb3 Re8 31.Be2]

28.Kd1 Anand: 'Ftacnik: '!'' Anand, Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'Anand, Viswanathan: 'Anand: 'Ftacnik: '!''"

[28.bxc5 e2 29.Kd2 Anand: 'Ftacnik: '!'' Anand,Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'Anand,Viswanathan: 'Anand: 'Ftacnik: '!''" exf1Q 30.Rxf1 Wins as well, but there is no reason to return material. Be4± (Anand) Ftacnik]

28...c4 Anand: 'ChessPublishing: 'The passed pawns look impressive, but two extra pieces are more than enough to deal with them. Nevertheless, the final phase is still very exciting.'' Anand, Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'Anand, Viswanathan: 'Anand: 'ChessPublishing: 'The passed pawns look impressive, but two extra pieces are more than enough to deal with them. Nevertheless, the final phase is still very exciting.''" **29.Be2** **Be4** **30.Kc1** Anand: 'Ftacnik: '⊕'' Anand: 'Ftacnik: ' ⊕'' Anand: 'Ftacnik: ' ⊕'' Anand: 'Ftacnik: 'The time trouble has left its mark on the process of converting advantage, the blockade along the dark squares on the diagonal a1-h8 is deciding the game.'' Anand, Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'Anand, Viswanathan: 'Anand: 'Ftacnik: ' ⊕'' Anand: 'Ftacnik: ' ⊕'' Anand: 'Ftacnik:

'⊕" Anand: 'Ftacnik: 'The time trouble has left its mark on the process of converting advantage, the blockade along the dark squares on the diagonal a1-h8 is deciding the game.'''' Anand: 'Ftacnik: 'The time trouble has left its mark on the process of converting advantage, the blockade along the dark squares on the diagonal a1-h8 is deciding the game.'' Anand, Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'Anand, Viswanathan: 'Anand: 'Ftacnik: 'The time trouble has left its mark on the process of converting advantage, the blockade along the dark squares on the diagonal a1-h8 is deciding the game.''''

[30.Ke1!? (Anand) (Ftacnik) Rd1-d4]

30...Re6 Anand: 'Ftacnik: '!" Anand, Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'Anand, Viswanathan: 'Anand: 'Ftacnik: '!''''

31.Bc3

[31.Ng5? (Anand) Ftacnik Rf2 32.Nxe6 Rxe2 33.Bxg7 b2+ 34.Kd1 *(34.Bxb2 Re1#)* 34...bxa1Q+ 35.Bxa1 Rxg2-+]

31...Rg6 32.Rh2 Bd3

[32...Rf4! (Anand) Ftacnik 33.Be5 Rfg4 34.Ne1 R4g5 35.Bd4 Bxg2 36.Bxe3 Be4! 37.Kb2±]

33.Bxd3 cxd3 34.Kb2 d2 35.Kxb3

[35.Rd1 Followed by ♗xd2 just finishes it. Followed by ♗xd2 just finishes it. Followed by ♗xd2 just finishes it. Anand,Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'Followed by Bxd2 just finishes it. Anand: 'Followed by ♗xd2 just finishes it.'' Anand,Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'Followed by Bxd2 just finishes it. Anand: 'Followed by ♗xd2 just finishes it.' Anand,Viswanathan: 'Followed by ♗xd2 just finishes it. Followed by ♗xd2 just finishes it. Followed by ♗xd2 just finishes it."]

[35.Bxd2 (Anand) Ftacnik exd2 36.Rd1 Ra6 37.Rxd2 Rfa8 38.Rh5 Rxa3 39.Rhxd5+-]

35...Rg3 36.Kb2 Yes, ♔c2 is quicker. I guess I was getting nervous! Yes, ♔c2 is quicker. I guess I was getting nervous! Yes, ♔c2 is quicker. I guess I was getting nervous! Anand,Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'Yes, Kc2 is quicker. I guess I was getting nervous! Anand: 'Yes, ♔c2 is quicker. I guess I was getting nervous!'' Anand,Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'Yes, Kc2 is quicker. I guess I was getting nervous! Anand: 'Yes, ♔c2 is quicker. I guess I was getting nervous!' Anand,Viswanathan: 'Yes, ♔c2 is quicker. I guess I was getting nervous! Yes, ♔c2 is quicker. I guess I was getting nervous! Yes, ♔c2 is quicker. I guess I was getting nervous!"

[36.Kc2! (Anand) Ftacnik]

36...g5 37.Kc2 Rc8

[37...g4 38.Nd4 *(38.Be5 gxf3 39.Bxg3 f2 40.Rh4 Rf5 41.Rg4+ Kf7 42.Bxf2 Rxf2 43.Kd3+-)* 38...Rf2 39.Rd1 e2 40.Nxe2 Rxe2 41.Rxd2+-]

38.Kd3 g4 39.Be5 Anand: 'Ftacnik: '!" Anand,Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'Anand,Viswanathan: 'Anand: 'Ftacnik: '!'''' **39...Rc1**

[39...gxf3 (Anand) Ftacnik 40.Bxg3 Rc1 41.Rh1! Rxh1 42.Rxh1 fxg2 43.Rg1 d4 44.Be5+-]

40.Rh1 Rxg2 41.Nh4 I played this and left the stage. When I came back Alexei graciously congratulated me on becoming World Champion! I played this and left the stage. When I came back Alexei graciously congratulated me on becoming World Champion! Anand: 'I played this and left the stage. When I

came back Alexei graciously congratulated me on becoming World Champion! '!' ChessPublishing. ChessPublishing: 'The e3 pawn drops." Anand,Viswanathan/Kuljasevic,D: 'I played this and left the stage. When I came back Alexei graciously congratulated me on becoming World Champion! Anand,Viswanathan: 'I played this and left the stage. When I came back Alexei graciously congratulated me on becoming World Champion! I played this and left the stage. When I came back Alexei graciously congratulated me on becoming World Champion! Anand: 'I played this and left the stage. When I came back Alexei graciously congratulated me on becoming World Champion! '!' ChessPublishing. ChessPublishing: 'The e3 pawn drops.""

[41.Nd4?? There is one last trick in the position d1Q+! 42.Rxd1 Rd2+! 43.Rxd2 exd2]

41...Rxa1

[41...d1Q+ 42.Rxd1 Rd2+ 43.Rxd2 exd2 44.Kxd2]

42.Rxa1 Rf2 43.Kxe3 1-0 (43) Anand,V (2762)-Shirov,A (2746) New Delhi/Teheran 2000 [Sanikidze]

1-0

84 **C11**

□ **Wang,Hao** **2762**

■ **Grischuk,Alexander** **2777**

Candidates Tournament (10) 21.04.2021

[Stohl,Igor, MH]

1.e4 e6 The Candidates is the most significant event in the career of all the participants, so it's no wonder they work hard and prepare very seriously for the tournament. This often includes new lines, systems or even whole openings they play only rarely. In this sense both Nepo's and Grischuk's choice of the French was one of the surprises of the first, resp. second half of the event. Despite getting interesting or even promising positions, resultwise both of them didn't do too well... **2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6**

[Nepo opted for the even more committal 3...Bb4 1-0 Vachier Lagrave,M (2767)-Nepomniachtchi,I (2774) Candidates Tournament 2020 (7) and it cost him dearly - he lost the sole lead in]

4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 Steinitz's move is more or less a side-line nowadays, with most of the attention concentrating on the far more topical

[5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 After cxd4 *(7...a6* is the other main alternative - Ian played it in the Crypto Cup in May 2021 with some success. *)* 8.Nxd4 Qb6 9.Qd2 Qxb2 10.Rb1 Qa3 11.Bb5 Nxd4 12.Bxd4 a6 13.Bxd7+ Bxd7 14.Rb3 Qe7 15.Rxb7 Maybe this is why Grischuk preferred

A) 15...Rc8 is currently the most often played move: 16.0-0

A1) 16...Qd8 17.Rf3!? Rc4 18.Ne2 Qc8 19.Rb2 Bc5 20.h3 0-0 21.Kh2 f6?! *(21...Qc7⇄)* 22.exf6 gxf6 23.Bxc5 Rxc5 24.Rg3+ Kh8 25.Nd4 Rg8 26.Rbb3 Rxg3 27.Rxg3 Qf8 28.Qe3→ Grischuk,A (2759)-Shirov,A (2664) Douglas 2019;

A2) 16...Qa3

A2a) 17.f5 Bc5 18.fxe6 *(18.Ne2 exf5 19.Qg5 g6 20.Kh1 Be7 21.Qd2!? Be6 22.Bg1⩱)* 18...Bxe6 19.Ne2

0-0 20.Rb3 Bxd4+ 21.Nxd4 Qxa2 22.Rg3 Qb2 23.Rb3 Qa2 24.h4 Rb8 25.Rg3 Rb1 26.Rxb1 Qxb1+ 27.Kh2 Chigaev,M (2542)-Bykov,O (2378) Voronezh 2016 Kh8 and White has hardly anything more than 28.Rxg7 Kxg7 29.Qg5+=;

A2b) 17.Rfb1!? Bc5 18.Ne2 Bxd4+ 19.Nxd4 Rc4 20.f5!? exf5 21.e6 fxe6 22.Rb8+ Rc8 23.Rxc8+ Bxc8 24.Nxe6 Qd6 25.Nxg7+ Kf7 26.Nh5 Re8 27.Nf4 *(27.Rf1 Ivic,V (2525)-Ragnarsson,D (2388) Batumi 2019 d4 28.Nf4 Bb7±)* 27...Re4 28.Nd3± Fenwick,C (2587)-Sengupta,D email 2016 Although Black has held all the mail games, which reached this position, White with his safer ♔ has certainly at least some edge - all in all not a very attractive position to defend over the board.;

B) 15...Qh4+

B1) 16.Bf2 is more popular and possibly more critical: Qd8 17.Bb6 Qc8 18.Rc7 Qd8 19.Qd4 Ba3 20.Nb1 Be7 21.c4 Rc8 22.Rb7 Bb4+ 23.Kf2 Qxb6 24.Rxb6 Bc5 25.Rd1 Bxd4+ 26.Rxd4 dxc4 27.Nc3 Rc7 28.Rxa6 Ke7 29.Rb6 Ra8 30.Ke3 h5!? *(30...Ra3 31.Kd2 Ra5 32.g3 f6 33.exf6+ gxf6 34.Kc1± 1-0 (53) Kamsky,G (2741)-Shimanov,A (2655) Tromsoe 2013)* 31.Rb4 Ra3 32.Kd2 f6 33.Rdxc4 *(33.exf6+ gxf6 34.Rdxc4 Rxc4 35.Rxc4 h4⩱ Δ 36.Kc2 Ra8)* 33...Rxc4 34.Rxc4 fxe5 35.fxe5 Ra5 36.Re4 Bc6⩱ Andscacs 0.93-Fire 020718 chessdom.com 2018;

B2) 16.Qf2

B2a) 16...Qxf2+ 17.Kxf2 Be7

B2a1) ⌓18.Rhb1! Bd8 *(18...Bc8 19.R7b3 0-0 20.Na4± 1-0 (28) Wang,J (2380)-Zhang,X (2374) China 2016)* 19.Rb8 Rxb8 20.Rxb8 0-0 21.Rb7 Bc6 22.Ra7 a5 *(22...Ba5 23.Rxa6 Bxc3 24.Bxc3 Rc8 25.Ke3±)* 23.Bc5 Re8 24.g3↑;

B2a2) 18.Nd1N Bd8 19.Ne3 Bc6 20.Rb2 0-0 21.Bc5 Re8 22.c4 f6 23.cxd5 exd5 24.Bd6 fxe5 25.fxe5 d4 26.Nf5 d3 27.Ke3 Bb5= /∓, Alekseenko,K (2698)-Grischuk,A (2777) Ekaterinburg 2021/ Black has a comfortable position here, later on he overpressed and lost.;

B2b) ⌓16...Be7! 17.g3 *(17.Qxh4 Bxh4+ 18.Kd2 Bd8 19.Rhb1 Bc6 20.Rb8 Rxb8 21.Rxb8 0-0 22.Rc8 Bb7 23.Rb8 Bc6 24.Rc8 Bb7 25.Rb8= ½, Dominguez Perez,L (2730)-Nepomniachtchi,I (2718) Sochi 2012)* 17...Qh3 18.Kd2 Bd8 19.Rhb1 Bc6 20.Bc5 Bxb7 21.Rxb7 Rc8 22.Kc1 *(22.Ne4 dxe4 23.Qd4 Qg2+ 24.Kc1 Bc7* and White has only *25.Qa4+ Kd8 26.Qd4+=)* 22...f6

23.Nxd5 exd5 24.Qe2 Rc7 25.Rxc7 Bxc7 Karjakin,S (2771)-Agdestein,S (2628) Stavanger 2014 26.exf6+ Kd7 27.f7 Bd6 28.Bxd6 Kxd6 29.Qe5+ Kd7 30.Qxg7 Qf1+ 31.Kd2 Qf2+= For more details see the notes to this game in CBM 161 by Marin.]

5...c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 Contrary to the 5. f4 and 6. ♘f3 system, where White occupies d4 with a piece, in the Steinitz/ Tarrasch line he wants to build up a powerful ♙⊞ and exploit his space advantage to quash any counterplay. The drawback is that he falls behind in development and if Black manages to effectively break open the ⊞, even at some material cost, he can get an excellent position.

[7.Nf3 cxd4 8.cxd4 f6 9.exf6 Nxf6 is not in the spirit of the line and 10.Ng3? *(⌓10.Nc3 Bd6 11.Bd3 0-0 12.0-0 Bd7∞)* was already punished by 10...Qb6 11.Bd3 *(11.a3 e5! 12.dxe5 Ng4∓)* 11...Bb4+ 12.Bd2 Nxd4 13.Nxd4 Qxd4 14.0-0 0-0 15.Ne2 Qb6 16.Be3 Bc5 17.Bxc5 Qxc5 18.Qc1 Qd6 19.f4 Qb6+ 20.Kh1 Bd7 21.Qc3 Bb5 22.Bxb5 Qxb5∓ Pichot,A (2630)-Grischuk,A (2776) chess24.com rpd 2021]

7...Be7

[7...Qb6 is the more usual reaction. The position after 8.Nf3 can arise also from the line 3. ♘d2 ♘f6 4.e5 ♘fd7 5.f4 c5 6.c3 ♘c6 7.♘df3 ♕b6 8.♘e2 - the only difference is that here the ♘b1 is sitting on f3 and the ♘g1 on e2! However, in this move order White prefers to play 8.g3 instead. Let's see now how Black can put the words from the previous note about energetic counterplay into action:

A) 8...Be7 9.g3 *(9.a3!?)* 9...0-0 10.Bh3 cxd4 11.cxd4 f6

A1) 12.Rf1 Kh8 13.Rf2 fxe5 14.fxe5 Ndxe5! 15.dxe5 Bb4+ 16.Nc3 Nxe5

A1a) 17.a3 Bc5 18.Rf1 Nxf3+ 19.Rxf3 Bd7 20.Bf4 *(20.b4? Bf2+ 21.Kf1 Bd4 22.Bb2* Harikrishna,P (2514)-Visser,Y (2442) Wijk aan Zee 2001 *Bxc3 23.Bxc3 Ba4!-+)* 20...Bc6 21.Be5 Lupulescu,C (2558)-Gurevich,M (2611) Plovdiv 2008 d4 22.Rxf8+ Rxf8 23.Qg4 Rf7↑;

A1b) 17.Qe2 Nxf3+ 18.Rxf3 Rxf3 19.Qxf3 e5⩲ 20.Bxc8 Rxc8 21.a3 Qg1+ 22.Qf1 Bxc3+ 23.bxc3 Qxh2= /∓;

A2) 12.Bxe6+ Kh8 13.exf6 *(13.Bxd5? fxe5 14.fxe5 Ndxe5! 15.dxe5 Nxe5 16.Bf4 Nxf3+ 17.Bxf3 Bb4+ 18.Nc3 Re8+ 19.Kf1 Bh3+ 20.Bg2 Qa6+ 21.Kf2 Bc5+ 22.Kf3* Guliyev,N (2555)-Schlawin,M (2302) Paris 2005 *Qc6+ 23.Qd5 Rad8! 24.Qxc6 Rd3+-+)* 13...Nxf6 14.Bxc8 Bb4+ 15.Kf1 Raxc8⩲ 16.Kg2 Ne4 17.Qd3 Na5 18.Ne5 Qa6 19.b3 Qxd3 20.Nxd3 Bd6 21.Nc5 Nxc5 22.dxc5 Bxc5 23.Rd1 Rfd8 24.Rb1 Nc6 25.Bd2 Kg8 26.Be1 g6 27.b4 Bf8 28.Rb3 Rd7 29.b5 Ne7 30.Kf3 Bg7= Abolins Abols,D (2165)-Dzenis,J (2205) email 2018;

B) 8...f6

B1) 9.g3 cxd4 *(9...Be7 - 8...♗e7)* 10.cxd4 Bb4+ 11.Nc3 0-0 12.a3 Be7 13.Bh3 fxe5

14.Bxe6+ Kh8 15.Nxd5 Qd8 16.Bxd7 Bxd7 *(16...Qxd7 17.Nxe7 Qxe7 18.dxe5 Bg4 19.0-0* Solleveld,M (2468)-Molander,R (2353) Cork 2005 *Qc5+ 20.Kg2 Qc4 21.b3 Qe6 22.Ng5 Qc8⩱)* 17.dxe5 Bg4 18.0-0 *(18.h3 Bxf3 19.Qxf3 Nxe5 20.Qe4 Nd7 21.0-0 Nf6⩱)* 18...Bc5+ 19.Be3 Bxe3+ 20.Nxe3 Qb6 21.Qd2 Bxf3 22.Rxf3 Nd4 23.Rff1 Nb3 24.Qf2 Nxa1 25.Rxa1 Rae8 26.Rc1 g5 27.Ng4 Qxf2+ 28.Kxf2 gxf4 29.Rc7⇄ Smagin,S (2550)-Dimitrov,V (2405) Prilep 1992;

B2) 9.a3 Be7 10.h4 0-0 11.Rh3 a5 12.b3 Qc7 13.Neg1 Anand,V (2762)-Shirov,A (2746) New Delhi/Teheran 2000/ Black had to win this game to stay in the match and sacrificed material. In CBM 081, Anand recommended b6!? instead: 14.h5 Ba6 15.Bxa6 Rxa6 16.exf6 Bxf6 17.h6 g6 18.Qe2 Raa8 *(⌓18...b5! 19.Qxe6+ Kh8⩱)* 19.Qxe6+ Kh8 20.Ne2 cxd4 21.cxd4 Nxd4? 22.Nfxd4 Bxd4 23.Nxd4 Rfe8 24.Bb2 Nf6 25.Re3 Rxe6 26.Nxe6 Qe7 27.Rc1± Hoogervorst,P (2129)-Vermeulen,B (1918) Chessfriend.com 2005]

8.Nf3 f6 9.Be3 Unusual, as this move belongs into the 5.f4 and 6. ♘f3 line. Developing the ♗c1 is not the top priority here and Wang Hao admitted in the subsequent press conference he played the text mainly due to confusion.

[White usually wants to safeguard his ♔ first and starts with 9.g3 , now Qb6 - 8... ♗e7 10.Bh3 cxd4 11.cxd4 0-0∞ leads to a position from the previous note.]

9...0-0 10.g3 Qb6 11.Qd2

[11.Qb3!? might be objectively better - if the position opens up with the ♔ on e1, it's safer for White to swap the ♕: Na5 *(11...fxe5 12.dxe5 Qxb3 13.axb3 Ndb8 14.Nc1 b6 15.h4 a5 16.Kf2 Na6 17.Bb5 Bb7 18.Rd1 Nc7 19.Bd3 d4 20.cxd4 cxd4 21.Bd2 h6 22.h5 Rad8 23.Bg6 Na6 24.Nd3↑* Windhausen,G (2547)-Schmid,P (2529) email 2017; *11...Qa6!? 12.Qc2 fxe5 13.dxe5 b5⇄; 11...cxd4 12.Qxb6 axb6 13.Nexd4 Nc5 14.a3±)* 12.Qxb6 axb6 13.Nd2 b5 14.exf6 gxf6 *(14...Rxf6!?)* 15.f5 e5 16.dxc5 Rd8 17.Bg2 Bxc5 18.Bh6 d4 19.Ne4 Nc4 20.b3 Nd6 21.Nxd6 Bxd6 22.cxd4 exd4 23.Nxd4 Nc5 24.Bd5+ Kh8⇄ Anikin,V (2313)-Emrich,E (2340) email 2018]

[11.Bh3 cxd4

A) 12.Bxe6+ Kh8 13.Bxd7 *(13.cxd4 Ndxe5-+)* 13...Bxd7 14.Bxd4 Qxb2 15.exf6 gxf6!?∞ /∓;

B) 12.cxd4? fxe5 13.Bxe6+ Kh8 14.0-0 e4 15.Ng5 Nf6∓ Δ 16.Nf7+ Rxf7 17.Bxf7 Nd8;

C) 12.Bxd4 Nxd4 13.Nexd4 fxe5 14.fxe5 Qxb2 *(14...Nc5!∓)* 15.Bxe6+ Kh8 16.0-0 Qxc3 17.Qb3 Qxb3 18.axb3 Nc5 19.Ng5 Rxf1+ 20.Rxf1 Bxe6 21.Ngxe6 Nxe6 22.Nxe6⩲ /=, Smirnov,A (2602)-Cheng,B (2539) Canberra 2021]

11...cxd4!?N If it still wasn't clear that both players were ouf of their preparation, Grischuk's 72 (!) minute think on this move removed the last

doubts. However, it's a good, albeit unintentional novelty.

[11...fxe5 12.dxe5 Rd8
A) 13.Bh3 d4 14.Bf2 d3 *(14...dxc3 15.Qxc3 Nf8 16.0-0 Qa6 17.Nc1 b6∞)* 15.Nc1 Nf8 16.b3 *(16.b4!±)* 16...Qa6 17.a4 b5 18.0-0 Bb7 19.Ra2 b4 20.c4 Na5! 21.Be3 Nxc4 22.bxc4 Qxc4⩲ Kamsky,G (2730)-Ding,L (2628) Moscow 2011;
B) 13.Bf2 d4 14.Bg2 dxc3 15.Qxc3 Qa6 16.Rd1 b5 17.0-0 Bb7 18.Nd2 Rac8 19.Ne4 b4 20.Qe3 Qxa2 21.b3 Qa6 22.Ra1 Qb6 23.Rfd1 Nf8 24.Rxd8 Nxd8 25.Nd2 Ba6 26.Qe4 Bb5 27.Nc4⩲ Macs,O (2054)-Zoll,D (2239) email 2015]

[11...Kh8 12.Bg2 cxd4 13.cxd4 Bb4 14.Nc3 Qa6 15.Kf2 fxe5 16.fxe5 Ndxe5 17.dxe5 Nxe5 18.Rhf1 Nc4 19.Qe2 d4 20.Bxd4 e5 21.Nd5 exd4 22.Nxb4 Qb5 23.Qe7 Bh3 24.Bxh3 Nd2 25.Kg1 Nxf3+ Fedoseev,V (2667)-Morozevich,A (2676) Moscow 2016 26.Kh1 Rae8 27.Qd6 Qh5 28.Qd5! Re5 29.g4 Rxd5 30.gxh5 Rxh5 31.Rxf3 Rxf3 32.Bg4+-]

12.Nfxd4?!

[12.cxd4 fxe5 13.dxe5 Bc5↻ ∓ Here the ♔e1 starts feeling the heat without Black having to sacrifice anything.]

[However, the more harmonious 12.Nexd4 turns out to be a better move. Grischuk calculated a lot here:
A) 12...Ncxe5? 13.fxe5 fxe5 14.Nf5 Bc5 15.Bxc5 Qxc5 *(15...Nxc5 16.Ne7+ Kh8 17.Nxe5 Ne4 18.Qd4 Qxb2 19.Rd1 Qf2+ 20.Qxf2 Nxf2 21.Rd4+- Δ Nxh1 22.N5g6+ hxg6 23.Rh4#)* 16.b4 Qb6 17.Ne7+±;
B) 12...fxe5! 13.Nxe6 d4 Necessary is
B1) 14.Nxf8 dxe3
B1a) 15.Bc4+ Kh8! 16.Qd5 *(16.Ng6+ hxg6 17.Qg2 Nc5-+)* 16...Nf6-+;
B1b) 15.Qd5+
B1b1) 15...Kxf8? 16.Bc4 Ke8 17.Qg8+ Nf8 18.0-0-0 Nd8 *(18...Bd7 19.Rhe1 exf4 20.Ng5!+-)* 19.Nxe5 Be6 20.Bxe6 Qxe6 21.Qxe6 *(21.Qxg7 Nc6!±)* 21...Nfxe6 22.Rhe1±;
B1b2) 15...Kh8! 16.0-0-0 *(16.Bc4 Nf6 17.Qb5 Qxb5 18.Bxb5 e4-+; 16.Nxd7 Qxb2-+)* 16...Nxf8 17.Bc4 Be6-+;
B2) ⌓14.Bf2 Re8 15.Be2 with sharp play:
B2a) 15...Bc5 16.Nxc5 Nxc5 17.Ng5!? *(17.0-0 Ne4 18.Qc2 Nxf2 19.Bc4+ Kh8 20.Qxf2 e4 21.Ng5 h6 22.Nf7+ Kh7 23.Nd6 Be6 24.cxd4 Nxd4=)* 17...h6 18.Bc4+ Ne6 19.Ne4 Kh8 20.0-0-0 Nc5 21.Nd6 Na5 22.fxe5 Nxc4 23.Nxc4 Qa6 24.Qxd4 b6 25.Nd6 Be6 26.Qb4 Nd3+ 27.Rxd3 Qxd3 28.Nxe8 Rxe8⩲ ⧉;
B2b) 15...Na5!? 16.f5 Nf6 17.Nxe5 Bxe6 18.Bxd4 Bc5 19.fxe6 Bxd4 20.cxd4 Rad8 21.b4 Rxd4 22.bxa5 Qd6 23.Nd3 Qxe6⩲]

[12.Bxd4 Bc5 *(12...Nxd4 13.Nexd4 fxe5 14.Nxe5 Nxe5 15.fxe5=; 12...Nc5 13.0-0-0 Bd7 14.exf6 Rxf6!? 15.Bxf6 Bxf6⩲)* 13.exf6 Nxf6

14.0-0-0 Ne4 15.Qe3 e5!? 16.Nxe5 *(16.Bxc5 Nxc5∓)* 16...Bxd4 17.Nxd4 *(17.cxd4 Nxe5 18.fxe5 Bf5→ -+)* 17...Nxe5 18.fxe5 Rf2 19.Bb5 Bh3! *(19...a6? 20.Rhf1 Rxh2 21.Qf3 Be6 22.Nxe6 Qxe6 23.Ba4+-)* 20.e6 a6 21.Be2 Raf8⩱ /∓]

12...Nc5?! Black's reaction is not ideal either.

[The engine screams for ⌓12...Bc5! , the point being Black is prepared to sacrfice a piece on b4 for ovewhelming compensation:

A) 13.b4 Nxb4 14.cxb4 *(14.Rb1 fxe5 15.fxe5 Nxe5! 16.cxb4 Nf3+ 17.Nxf3 Bxe3-+)* 14...Bxb4 15.Nc3 fxe5 16.fxe5 Nxe5↑ /∓;

B) 13.exf6 Nxf6

B1) 14.b4 Nxb4 15.Rb1 Ne4 16.Qd1 e5 17.fxe5 Rf3! *(17...Bg4→)* 18.Nxf3 Bxe3 19.Qb3 Nc5 20.Qxb4 Nd3+-+;

B2) 14.Bg2 e5 15.fxe5 Ne4 16.Bxe4 dxe4 17.b4 Nxb4! 18.cxb4 Bxb4 19.Nc3 Qa5 20.Rc1 Bh3↑]

13.exf6 Bxf6

[13...gxf6!?∞]

14.Nb3 Ne4 15.Qd3

[Afterwards the players shortly debated the line 15.Bxb6 Nxd2 16.Bc5 Nxf1 *(16...Nxb3?! 17.axb3±)* 17.Bxf8 Ne3 18.Kf2 Ng4+ 19.Kf3 , Black has a lot of play after e5!? *(Grischuk intended 19...Nge5+ 20.fxe5 Nxe5+ 21.Kg2 Kxf8⩱* , which is also viable.*)* 20.h3 *(20.Bc5 b6 21.Bg1 Bf5↑)* 20...e4+ 21.Kg2 Ne3+ 22.Kf2 Nc4 23.Bc5 Nxb2 24.Bd4∞]

15...Qc7 16.Bg2 Nd6?! Now White finishes his development and after consolidation can fight for an advantage due to his better pawn-structure.

[The more active 16...b6 17.0-0 a5 leds to roughly equal play after 18.Rfe1 *(18.Bxe4?!* -0.49/20 18.Rfe1 0.08 *dxe4 19.Qxe4 Bb7↑)* 18...Ba6 19.Qd1 a4 *(19...Rae8 20.Ned4 Nxd4 21.Bxd4±)* 20.Nbd4 Nxd4 21.Nxd4 *(21.Bxd4 a3⇄)* 21...Nc5!∞ 22.b4 Nd3 23.Nxe6 Qxc3 24.Bxd5! Kh8 25.Rb1 Rad8 *(25...Nxe1 26.Qxe1 Rae8! 27.Qxc3 Bxc3 28.Nxf8 Rxe3 29.Ne6 Re1+ 30.Rxe1 Bxe1⩱)* 26.Nxd8 Rxd8 27.b5! Nxe1 28.Qxe1 Qxe1+ 29.Rxe1 Bxb5=]

17.Bf2 Nc4 0.42/25

[17...Ne4= 0.06/20]

18.Qc2 Ne7 19.0-0 Logical, White doesn't commit a piece to d4 yet and finally safeguards his ♔.

[≤19.Nbd4 -0.01/26 19.0-0 0.40 e5 20.fxe5 allows Qxe5! 21.0-0 Nf5⇄]

19...e5 0.70/20

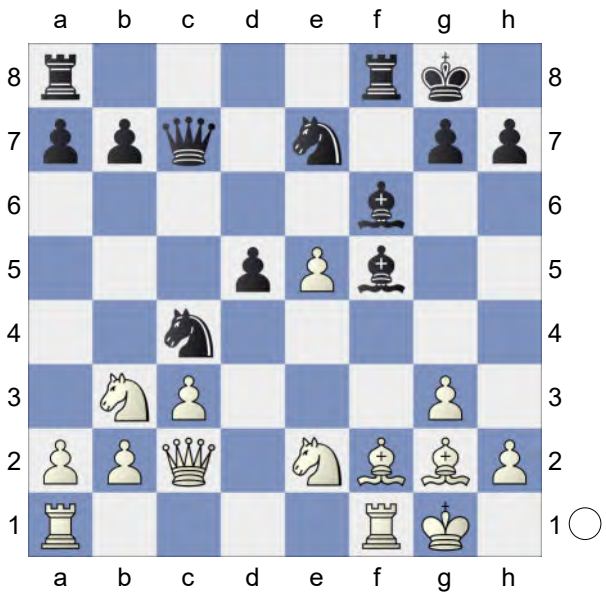
[19...Nf5 0.34/22 deserves consideration.]

20.fxe5± Bf5

[20...Bxe5 21.Ned4± /±]

[20...Qxe5 1.11/22 20...Bf5 0.70 21.Bd4! Qg5 22.Rae1 Ne3 23.Bxe3 Qxe3+ 24.Kh1↻ ±]

(Diagram)



As taking back on e5 gives White a comfortable position, Grischuk flicks in an intermediate developing move. He is willing to sacrifice a pawn... **21.exf6!?** 0.03/18 Instead of accepting the offer, Wang Hao creatively offers a ♕ for only 2 minor pieces. Possibly a glance at his opponent's clock influenced his decision, but while the text is interesting and leads to a wild tactical fight, objectively it's not the best choice.

[⌓21.Qd1! Bxe5 *(21...Nxb2? 3.34/19 21...Bxe5 0.58 22.Qd2 Nc4 23.Bxd5+; 21...Qxe5 22.Bd4±)* 22.Ned4! Bd7! *(22...Nxb2* 1.35/22 22...Bd7 0.54 *23.Qe2 Nc4 24.Nc5! Rf7 25.Nxf5 Rxf5 26.Rae1! Re8 27.Nd3± /+-)* 23.Qc2 Rae8 24.Rae1± *(*or *24.Nd2±* gives White a pleasant and almost riskless edge. *)*]

[Less convincing is 21.Qc1 Qxe5!? 22.Nf4 Be4 23.Bd4 Qd6⇄]

[Taking the pawn 21.Bxd5+ 0.14/20 21.Qd1 0.62 gives Black a lot of play after Nxd5 22.Qxf5 Bxe5 23.Qe6+ *(23.Qe4* -0.27/19 23.Qd3 0.15 *Nf6* Δ *24.Qc2 Ng4⩱; 23.Qd3* Repels Nxd2 *Rad8 24.Ned4 Qc8!? 25.Rab1 Nf6⩱)* 23...Qf7 24.Qxf7+ Rxf7 25.Rab1 *(25.Bd4 Rxf1+ 26.Rxf1 Bxd4+ 27.Nbxd4* White wants to play b3. *Nxb2 28.Rb1 Na4 29.Rxb7 Naxc3=)* 25...Raf8⩱]

[21.Bxd5+ Nxd5 22.Qxf5 Bxe5 23.Qe6+ Qf7 24.Qxf7+ Rxf7∓]

[21.Qd1!± 0.49/21 Bxe5 22.Ned4]

21...Bxc2= 22.fxe7 Rfe8! 23.Nf4!

[23.Bxd5+ -0.38/5 23.Nf4 0.00 Kh8 24.Nc5 Ne5∓ /∓ and the ♙e7 falls]

[23.Bxd5+ Kh8±]

23...Nb6

[23...Rxe7? 4.14/21 23...Nb6 0.00 24.Nxd5 Qd8 25.Nxe7+ Qxe7 26.Bd5++-]

[23...Rxe7? 24.Nxd5 Qd8 25.Nxe7+ Qxe7 26.Bd5+ Kh8 27.Bxc4+-]

24.Nxd5? -1.77/20 Only this natural move is a mistake. White had 2 better moves to hold the balance.

[A typical forcing engine line, leading to a draw, is 24.Bxb6 Qxb6+ 25.Nd4 Be4! 26.Nxd5 Bxd5 27.Bxd5+ Kh8 28.Rf7! Qc5 29.Bxb7 Rab8 30.Raf1! g6 ...Rxe7! would now be deadly. 31.b4! Qxc3 32.Nc6

A) 32...Rxb7 33.Rf8+ Kg7 34.Rxe8 Qe3+= *(34...Qxc6 35.Rg8+! Kxg8 36.Rf8+ Kg7 37.e8Q Qxe8 38.Rxe8 Rxb4 39.Re7+ Kf6 40.Rxa7 h5=; 34...Qxc6!? 35.Rg8+□* Decoy *Kxg8 36.Rf8+ Kg7±)*;

B) 32...Rxb7!? 33.Rf8+□ Kg7 34.Rxe8 Qe3+ 35.Rf2 Rd7=;

C) 32...Qe3+ 33.R1f2 Qe1+ *(33...Rxb7!? 34.Rf8+□ Kg7 35.Rxe8 Qc1+ 36.Rf1 Qxc6 37.Rg8+* Decoy *Kxg8 38.Rf8+ Kg7=)* 34.Rf1 Qe3+=]

[Another interesting option isplaying for positional compensation with

24.Bd4 Qxe7 25.Nc5! , for example *(25.Nxd5 -1.45/20 25.Nc5 -0.20 Qd6∓)* 25...Rac8 *(25...Qd6 26.Bh3!⩱; 25...Be4 26.Bh3!⩱)* 26.b4 *(26.Nfe6!?)* 26...Be4 27.Bh3 Rc6! 28.Rae1⩲ and Black extra ♕ is not really felt here - the position is about equal.]

[24.Bxb6= 0.00/23 and White is okay. Qxb6+ 25.Nd4]

24...Nxd5-+ 25.Bxd5+ Kh8 26.Nd4 Qd7 27.c4

[27.Bc4 Be4 28.Be6 Qd6!? and Black should gradually win after taking the ♙e7. *(≤28...Qxe7 29.Rae1)*]

27...Bg6

[Possibly more accurate was 27...Bd3!? 28.Rfd1 Bg6-+]

is only a transposition after **28.Ne6** -2.20/21

[⌓28.Rae1 -1.72/20]

28...Rxe7-+

[28...Qxe7 29.Bd4 Rg8 30.Rae1±]

29.Rae1 Bf7? -1.18/20 A more serious step in the wrong direction.

[Black retains excellent winning chances with ⌓29...Bf5! 30.Nc5 *(30.Ng5 -2.70/21 30.Nc5 -1.68 h6)* 30...Qc7

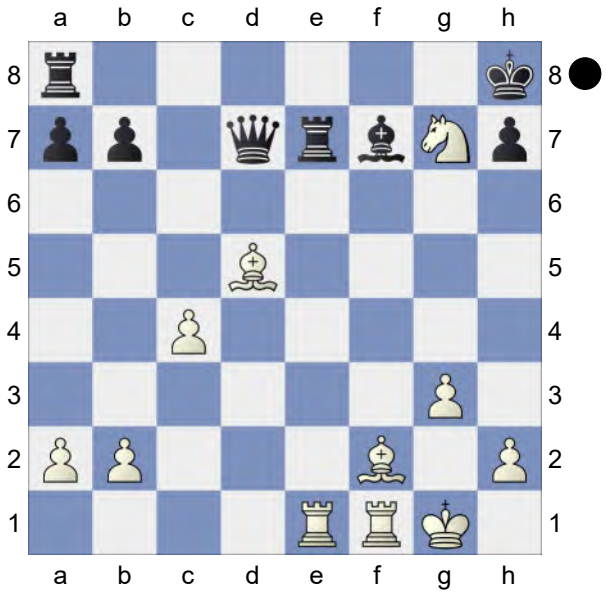
A) 31.Rxe7 Qxe7 32.Nxb7 Rc8-+ *(32...Re8?* 0.75/23 32...Rc8 -2.26 *33.Bc5!)*;

B) 31.Nxb7 Rxe1 32.Rxe1 Bg6! 33.Nd6 Rf8 34.Nb5 *(34.c5?* -4.36/19 34.Nb5 -2.47 *Rxf2-+)* 34...Qa5∓ /-+]

[Also better than the text-move was 29...Rae8 -1.23/18 29...Bf5 -2.08 30.Bd4? -2.77/18 *(30.Bc5∓* -1.23/18 *)* 30...h5-+ Δ 31.Nf8 Qg4]

[29...Bf5-+ -2.07/22 30.Nc5 Qc7 31.Nxb7 Rxe1 32.Rxe1 Bg6]

30.Nxg7!∓



Bxd5?! 0.07/27 Time-trouble rears it's ugly head and Grischuk squanders any remaining advantage

[He saw 30...Kxg7 -1.02/27 30...Rxe1 -1.48 31.Bd4+ Kg8 32.Rxe7 Qxe7 33.Rxf7 Qxf7 34.Bxf7+ Kxf7 35.Kf2!∓ /= and evaluated it as drawish.]

[⌓30...Rxe1! 31.Bxe1

A) 31...Bxd5? 0.00/26 31...Kxg7 -1.72 32.Nh5!

A1) 32...Qh3? 0.88/23 32...Qc6 0.00 33.Bc3+ Kg8 34.Nf6+ Kf7 0.88/22 *(34...Kf8=* 0.27/23 keeps the balance. *35.Nxd5+* Discovered Attack (Check) *Ke8)* 35.Nxd5++-;

A2) 32...Qc6 33.Bc3+ Kg8 34.Nf6+⩲ = already gives White full compensation.;

B) 31...Kxg7!? 32.Rxf7+ Qxf7 33.Bxf7 Kxf7∓ is a better version of the endgame with an extra exchange. The ♗e1 is passive and Black is still the active side here.]

[Black should play 30...Rxe1!∓ -1.48/27 31.Bxe1 Kxg7 *(31...Bxd5*

32.Nh5=) 32.Bc3+ *(32.Rxf7+ Qxf7 33.Bxf7 Kxf7∓)* 32...Kg8 *(32...Kf8 33.Bxf7 Qa4 34.b3=)* 33.Bxf7+ *(33.Rxf7? Qxf7 34.a3 Qxd5-+)* 33...Qxf7 34.Rxf7 Kxf7]

31.Rxe7=

[31.Bd4? -3.87/26 31.Rxe7 0.04 Rxg7]

[31.Rxe7!? Qxe7 32.Nf5=]

31...Qxe7 32.Nf5 Qf8 (→ ...Qe1!)

[32...Qg5? 0.58/23 32...Qe4 0.07 33.Bd4+ Kg8 34.h4! Qxf5! 35.Rxf5±]

[32...Qe4!? 33.Bd4+ Qxd4+ 34.Nxd4 Bxc4=]

33.Bd4+ White wants to mate with Xe7.

33...Kg8 34.cxd5⩲ White's well coordinated forces guarantee him at least a draw. **34...h5!**

[34...h6 0.69/27 34...h5 0.18 35.d6 *(35.Rf4 0.00/32 35.d6 0.73 Rd8 36.Rg4+ Kf7 37.Rf4! Kg8=)* 35...Kh7 36.Ne7⩲]

[Don't go for 34...Rd8? 35.d6 Rxd6 36.Bc5+-]

35.d6 Kh7 36.Ne7 Qe8 37.Rf6

[37.Rf5 Black must now prevent h4. Rd8=

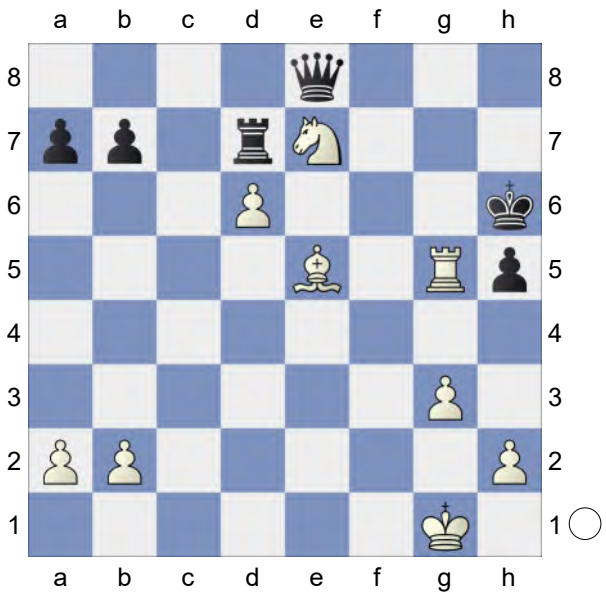
A) 38.Rg5 Threatening mate with Rg7+. Qf7 39.Be5 *(39.Rf5 Qe8=; 39.Rf5!? Qe8□ 40.Be5=)* 39...Qf3=;

B) 38.Rg5!? Qf7□ 39.Rf5±;

C) 38.Be5 is rather more testing, but Black survives after

C1) 38...Rd7 0.66/24 38...Kh6 0.07 39.Rg5! Intending Rg7+ and mate. Kh6

(Diagram)



40.Rg7 0.33/23 *(40.Bf6!+- 1.61/25)* 40...Rxe7!± 41.dxe7 Qc6⇄ =;

C2) 38...Kh6! 39.h4 Rd7! 40.Bf4+ *(40.Ng8+ Qxg8 41.Bf4+ Kg6 42.Rg5+ Kf7 43.Rxg8 Kxg8 44.Kg2* Hoping for g4! *Kf7 45.Kf3* And now g4 would win. *Ke6 46.g4 hxg4+ 47.Kxg4* Strongly threatening h5. *Rg7+ 48.Bg5* aiming for h5. *Rf7!? 49.Bf4* h5 is the strong threat. *Rg7+=)*]

37...Rd8 38.Bc3

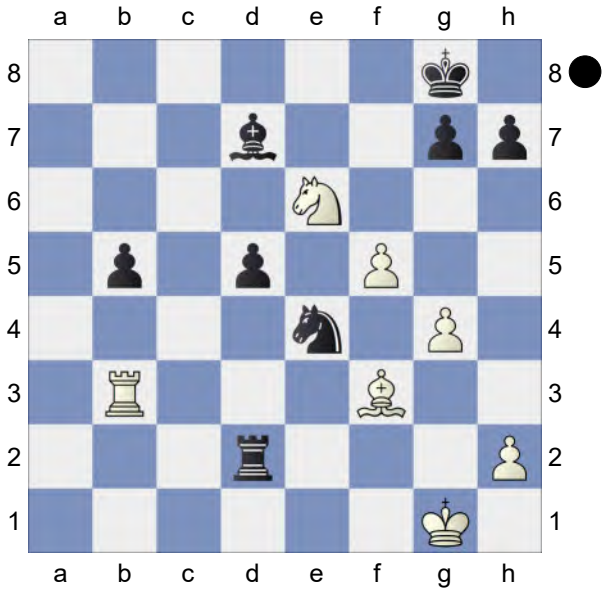
[38.Be5 Rd7! 39.Rf5 Rxe7 40.dxe7 Qxe7 Threatens to win with ...Qc5+. 41.Rxh5+ Kg6 42.g4 Qf7 43.a3 Qd5=]

38...Rxd6!?= Grischuk has had enough excitement. Black is not better at all and forcing a draw is the most reasonable and practical option. **39.Rxd6 Qxe7 40.Rd4 Kg6 41.a3 Qe3+** Forcing a perpetual, otherwise White has a fortress (or is it Black?:).

½-½

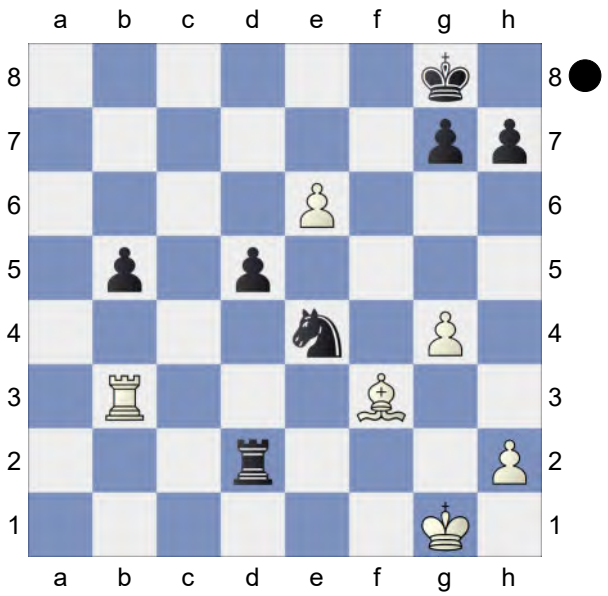
85 **C11**
□ **So,Wesley** **2760**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2718**
Tata Steel India Rapid (5.3) 30.11.2022
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Qb6 9.a3 Bc5 10.Ncb5 a6 11.b4 axb5 12.bxc5** White is slightly better. **12...Qxc5 13.Qd3! Qe7 14.Nxb5 0-0 15.Be2 f6 16.exf6 Nxf6 17.0-0 Bd7 18.Nd4N**
[18.Bb6 Ra4 19.g3 Ne4 20.Qb3 Rfa8 21.Rfd1 Qf8 22.c4 Nf6 23.f5 Kh8 24.fxe6 Bxe6 25.cxd5 Bxd5 26.Rxd5 Nxd5 27.Qxd5 Qe7 28.Nd6 Rf8 29.Rf1 Rxf1+ 30.Bxf1 Ne5 31.Qxe5 Qxe5 32.Nf7+ Kg8 1-0 Van Otte,W (2273)-C 45/05 (1407) 82/(165) Ptuj 2000 (1) 33.Nxe5 Rxa3 34.Bc4+ Kh8 35.Kf2 Rc3 36.h4 h6 37.g4 Rh3 38.Nf3 g5 39.hxg5 Rh1 40.Bd4+ Kh7 41.Bd3+ Kg8 42.g6 Rc1 43.Be4 Rc7 44.Bd5+ Kf8 45.g7+ 1-0 Soumya,S (2273)-Arya,G (1407) IND-ch (Women) 49th 2023 (1)]
18...Na5 19.Bd2 Black must now prevent Bb4. **19...Rfc8 20.Bb4** A strong pair of Bishops. **20...Qe8** 0.41/17
[20...Qd8= 0.00/17]
21.Rae1 Nc6 22.Bf3 0.08/20
[22.Qe3!± 0.44/19]
22...Nxb4 23.axb4 Qe7 24.Qd2 0.05/22
[24.Nxe6± 0.49/22 is superior. Bxe6 25.f5]
24...Qd6 25.g3 -0.49/22
[25.c3= 0.23/20]
25...Ra3!∓ 26.Re3 Wards off Rcc3
26...Rxe3 27.Qxe3 Qxb4 28.Nxe6 -1.55/21
[28.Rd1∓ -0.33/19]
28...Rxc2∓ 29.f5 Qd2 -0.15/22
[29...h6!∓ -1.33/18 and ...b5 would now be decisive 30.Qd4 Qd6]
30.Qxd2= Rxd2 31.Rb1 -0.64/20
[31.g4= -0.19/19]
31...b5!∓ 32.g4 Ne4 Inhibits Nc5.
33.Rb3 -1.53/21
[33.h4∓ -0.38/19]



33...Bxe6!∓ 34.fxe6 -1.73/21 Endgame
[34.Bxe4∓ -1.17/21 was necessary. Bd7 *(34...dxe4 35.fxe6 Rd5 36.Ra3∓)* 35.Bd3]

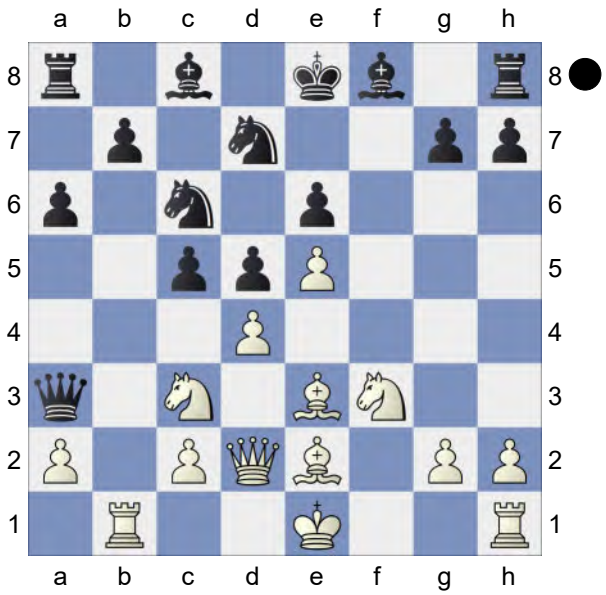
(Diagram)



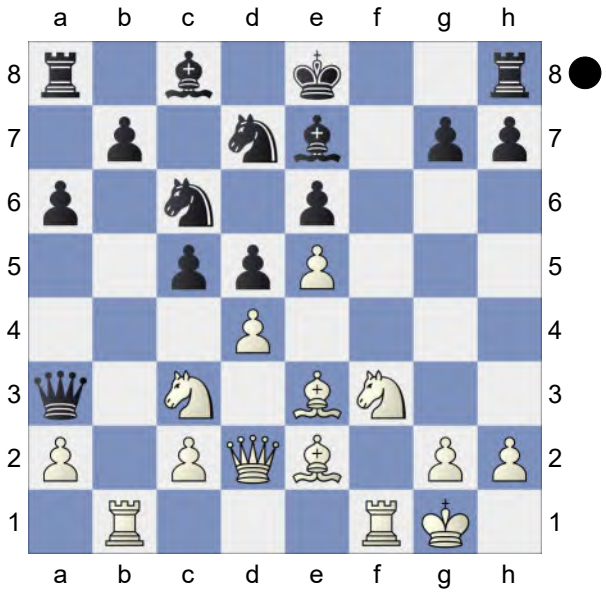
KRB-KRN. Black is a pawn up. **34...Ng5?** -0.14/21
[34...Nd6!-+ -1.73/21 35.e7 Kf7]
35.h4= Nxf3+ 36.Rxf3 KR-KR. Black is a pawn up. **36...Re2 37.Rb3! Rxe6 38.Rxb5 Re4 39.g5 d4 40.h5 Kf7 41.Kf2 Ke6 42.h6 g6 43.Rb6+!** The position is equal. **43...Kf5 44.Rb7 Kxg5 45.Rxh7 Kh5 46.Rh8 g5 47.h7** Threatening mate with Rg8. **47...Re7 48.Rd8 Rxh7** Weighted Error Value: White=0.21 (precise) /Black=0.18 (very precise) **49.Rxd4**
½-½

86 **C11**
□ **Nakamura,Hikaru** **2758**
■ **Morozevich,A.** **2762**
54th Reggio Emilia (8) 04.01.2012
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Qb6 7.Be3 Nc6 8.Qd2 Qxb2 9.Rb1 Qa3 10.f5** -0.87/20 **a6**
[10...exf5?! 11.Rb3 *(11.Nxd5 Qxa2 12.Rb3 cxd4=)* 11...Qa5 12.Nxd5±]
11.fxe6 fxe6 Black is better. **12.Be2?** -2.01/20
[12.Bd3!∓ -0.31/19]

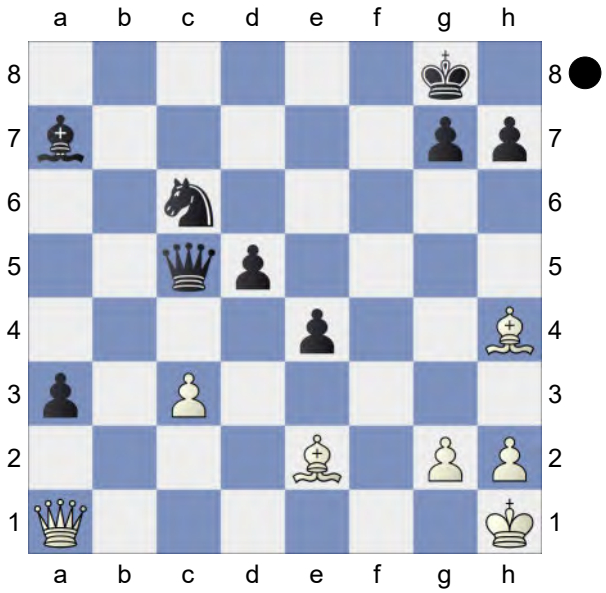


12...Be7!-+ 13.0-0 -2.13/19
[13.Nd1∓ -1.59/19]



13...0-0! 14.Kh1 -2.57/24
[⌓14.dxc5 -1.88/22 Bxc5
(14...Ndxe5? 15.Nxe5 Rxf1+ 16.Bxf1+-; 14...Nxc5 15.h4∓; 14...Ncxe5? 15.Nxe5 Nxe5

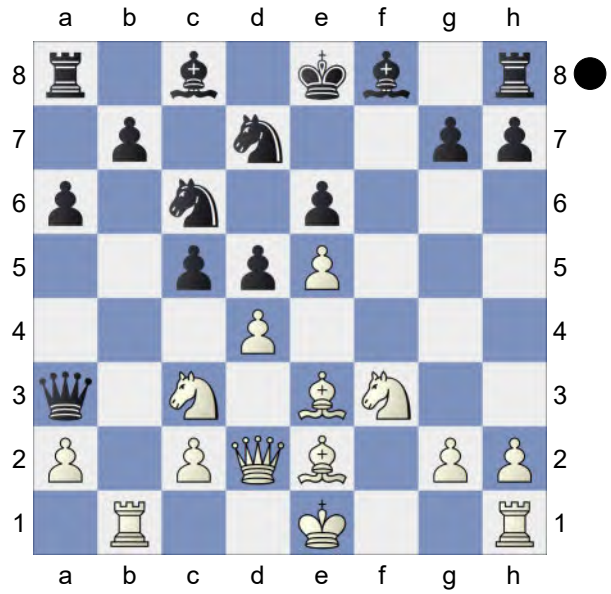
16.Rb3+-) 15.Bxc5 Qxc5+ 16.Kh1]
14...cxd4 15.Nxd4 Ndxe5 16.Rb3? -3.53/20
[16.Rxf8+ -1.61/21 is a better defense. Bxf8 17.Nxc6 Nxc6 18.Bb6]
16...Rxf1+ 17.Bxf1 Qd6 18.Nxc6 Nxc6
[Weaker is 18...bxc6 19.Na4∓]
19.Na4 b5 20.Nb6 Rb8 21.Bf4? -4.72/21
[21.Nxc8 -2.89/17 Rxc8 22.Rb1]
21...e5 22.Nxc8 Rxc8 23.Bg3 Qe6 24.Rb1 e4 25.a4 -6.24/18
[⌓25.Bf2 -4.18/17]
25...bxa4 Black is clearly winning. **26.Bxa6 Rf8 27.c3 a3 28.Be2 Bd6 29.Bh4 Rb8 30.Rxb8+ Bxb8 31.Qa2 Qd6 32.Bg3 Qc5** and ...Ba7 would now be decisive **33.Bh4N Ba7**
[33...Qxc3? 34.Qxd5+ Kh8 35.Qf7 Qa1+ 36.Bf1∓]
34.Qa1



Against Qg1+ Black took control after the opening. Weighted Error Value: White=0.71/Black=0.07 (flawless)
34...a2!
0-1

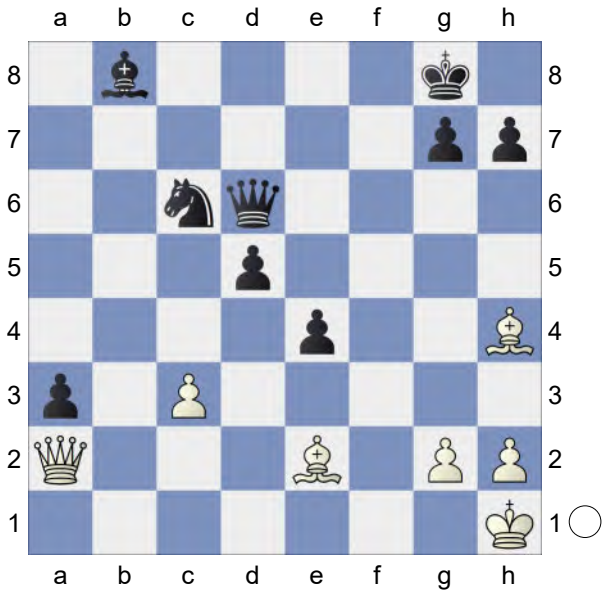
87 **C11**
□ **Nakamura,Hikaru** **2758**
■ **Giri,Anish** **2714**
Reggio Emilia 54th (9) 05.01.2012
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Qb6 7.Be3 Nc6 8.Qd2 Qxb2 9.Rb1 Qa3 10.f5N** -1.10/17
[10.Rb3 Qa5 11.dxc5 *(11.Rb5 Qc7 12.Bd3 a6 13.Rb1 cxd4 14.Nxd4 Nxd4 15.Bxd4 Bc5 16.Ne2 0-0 17.0-0 f6 18.exf6 Rxf6 19.Kh1 Bxd4 20.Nxd4 Nc5 21.h3 Bd7 22.Rbe1 Nxd3 23.Qxd3 Rxf4 24.Rxf4 Qxf4 25.Rf1 Qe4* 0-1 Valente,S (1911)-Meylan,A (2138) Titled Tuesday intern op 28th Jan Early blitz 2025 (5)*)* 11...a6 12.Qf2 Nxc5 13.Bxc5 Bxc5 14.Qg3 Bb4 15.Nd2 Nd4 16.Qxg7 Rf8 17.Nde4 dxe4 0-1 7.♗b3 ♘a6 8.f4 ♘c5 9.î€ (1311)-Markov,A (1533) 108/(31) Edmonton 2009 (2)]
[10.Bb5 Qa5 11.0-0 c4 12.f5 Nb6 13.Qe1 exf5 14.a4 Be6 15.Bd2 Bb4 16.Rxb4 Qxb4 17.Ne4 Qb2 18.Nd6+ Kf8 19.Bc3 Qxc2 20.Nxb7 Nxa4 21.Bb4+ Kg8 22.Bxc6 Rc8 23.Rf2 Qb3 24.Na5 Rxc6 1-0 9.Nd2 a5/ 14.Qc2 Ngf6 15.Bd3 (2733)-Brenner,M (2611) 20: FIDE Candidates 2018 (2)]
10...a6
[10...exf5?! 11.Bg5 *(11.Nxd5 Qxa2 12.Nc3 Qa5=)* 11...f6 12.exf6 Nxf6 13.Bxf6 gxf6 14.Be2= *(14.Nxd5 Qxa2 15.Rb3 Kd8±)*]
11.fxe6 -1.20/21
[White should play 11.Be2 -0.79/18]
11...fxe6∓ Black is better. **12.Be2** -1.92/20
[12.Bd3!∓ -0.69/18]



12...Be7!-+ 13.0-0 0-0 14.Kh1 -2.31/19
[⌓14.dxc5 -1.61/18 Bxc5 *(14...Ndxe5? 15.Nxe5 Rxf1+ 16.Bxf1+-; 14...Nxc5 15.h4∓; 14...Ncxe5? 15.Rb3+-)* 15.Bxc5 Qxc5+ 16.Kh1]
14...cxd4 15.Nxd4 Ndxe5 16.Rb3? -3.30/19
[16.Rxf8+∓ -1.60/17 Bxf8 17.Nxc6 Nxc6 18.Bf3]
16...Rxf1+ 17.Bxf1 Qd6 18.Nxc6 Nxc6
[Less strong is 18...bxc6 19.Bf4 Qc7 20.Na4∓]
19.Na4 b5 20.Nb6 Rb8 21.Bf4? -4.69/20
[21.Rb1 -2.75/17 was called for.]
21...e5 22.Nxc8 Rxc8 23.Bg3 Qe6 24.Rb1 e4 25.a4 -6.19/18
[⌓25.Bf2 -4.05/18]
25...bxa4 Black is clearly winning. **26.Bxa6 Rf8 27.c3 a3** and ...e3 should not be overlooked **28.Be2 Bd6 29.Bh4 Rb8 30.Rxb8+ Bxb8 31.Qa2 Qd6**

(Diagram)



32.Bg3 Black took control after the opening. Weighted Error Value: White=0.68/Black=0.11 (very precise)
32...Qc5
0-1

88 **C11**
□ **Duda,Jan Krzysztof** **2757**
■ **Firouzja,Alireza** **2728**
Norway Chess 8th (1) 05.10.2020
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 Be7 8.Nf3 0-0 9.a3 f6**
[9...a5 10.g3 cxd4 11.cxd4 f6 12.Bh3 fxe5 13.dxe5 Qb6 14.Bxe6+ *(14.Nc3 Ndxe5 15.fxe5 Nxe5 16.Bg2 Bd7 17.Rf1 Nc4 18.Rb1 Bf6 19.Qd3 Rac8 20.Ng5 Bxg5 21.Bxg5 Rxf1+ 22.Bxf1 Rf8 23.Qe2 Rf5 24.Bf4 g5 25.Nxd5 exd5 26.Bb8 Rf8* Black'S Centre Busting-Nxe5 Sacrifice 2008*)* 14...Kh8 15.Qxd5 Nc5 16.Bxc8 Rd8 17.Qxd8+ Qxd8 18.Bf5 Nd3+ 19.Kf1 Ndxe5 20.Kg2

Nxf3 21.Kxf3 Qd5+ 22.Be4 Qh5+ 23.g4 Qh3+ 24.Ng3 0-1 3.♘d2 g6 4.♘gf3 ♗g7 5.î (2561)-Bruce,R (2571) chess.com (ol-rapid) 147/43 2020]

10.b4 fxe5N

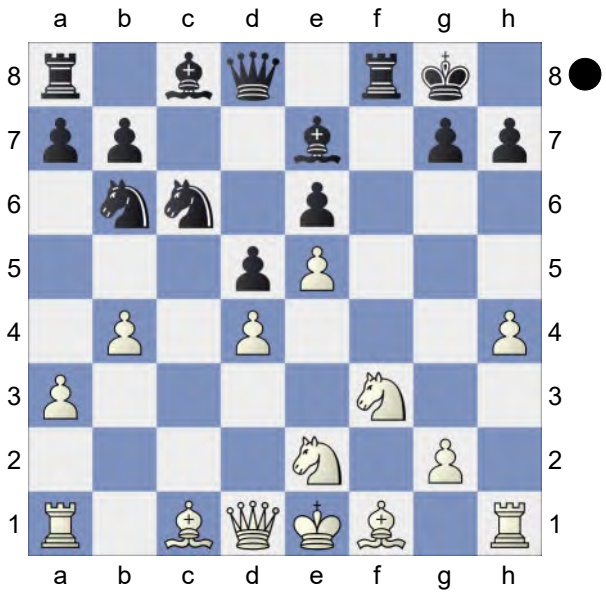
[10...cxd4 11.Nexd4 Nxd4 12.cxd4 *(12.Qxd4 a5 13.Bd3 axb4 14.cxb4 fxe5 15.fxe5 Qb6 16.Bb2 Qxd4 17.Bxd4 Rf4* Steinitz Variante-13 | Steinitz mit 5.f4 + 7.Se*)* 12...f5 Quickstarter Guide Steinitz-Nce2]

11.fxe5 The position is equal. **11...cxd4 12.cxd4 Nb6** 1.38/20

[12...Qc7!= 0.28/19 keeps the balance.]

13.h4? -0.45/20

[13.b5!± 1.38/20]



13...Rxf3!∓ 14.gxf3 Bxh4+ 15.Kd2 Bd7! Black has compensation. **16.Bb2?** -3.40/21

[16.Kc3!∓ -0.46/18]

16...Nc4+ -1.78/20

[⌓16...Nxe5 -3.40/21 17.dxe5 Ba4 18.Qxa4 Bg5+ *(18...Nxa4? 19.Bd4-+)* 19.Ke1 Nxa4]

17.Kc1-+ Be8 And now ...Bf2 would win. **18.Bh3 Bg6** -0.37/20 Black is much more active.

[18...Bf7∓ -1.59/19 aiming for ...Bf2. 19.Bc3 Bf2]

19.Bxe6+∓ Kh8 20.Qg1 Against Bf2

20...Bd3 Chess con chili.

[20...N6a5!? 21.bxa5 Bg5+ 22.Kd1 *(22.f4? Qxa5 23.Qe1 Qb6-+)* 22...Nxb2+ 23.Ke1 Qxa5+ 24.Kf1 Qd2=]

21.Qg4? -3.52/20

[21.Rh3= -0.30/20 Nxb2 *(21...Bxe2 22.Qh2=)* 22.Kxb2 Bxe2 23.Qe3]

21...Bg5+? -0.36/17

[21...Bxe2? 22.Qxh4 *(22.Rxh4 Bd3±)* 22...h6 23.Qf4+-]

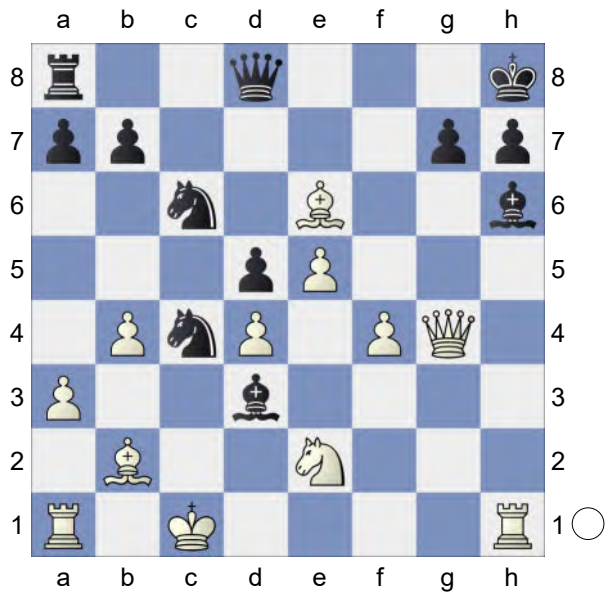
[21...Bf2 22.Bc3 Qb6 *(22...Bxe2 23.Rxh7+* Decoy *Kxh7 24.Qh5#)* 23.Nf4 Nxd4 24.Ng6+ *(24.Nxd3? Ne2+ 25.Kc2 Ne3+ 26.Kd2 Nxg4-+)* 24...Bxg6 25.Qxg6 Be3+ *(25...Ne2+ 26.Kc2 Nd4+ 27.Kb1)* 26.Kd1∓ *(26.Kb1 h6∓)*]

[21...N6a5-+ -3.52/20 (→ ...Nb3+) 22.bxa5 *(22.Rxh4? Nb3+ 23.Kd1 Ne3+ 24.Ke1 Nxg4-+)* 22...Qxa5]

22.f4 Bh6 0.99/19

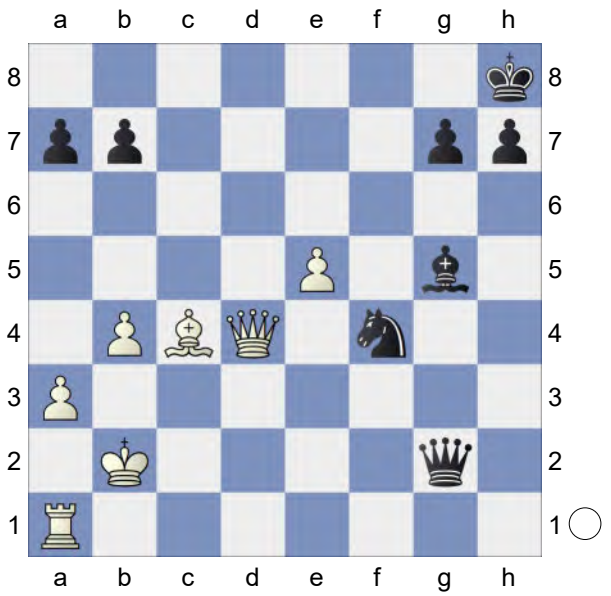
[22...Qc7= -0.29/21 23.Qg3 *(23.fxg5? N6xe5 24.dxe5 Nxe5+* Discovered Attack (Check) *25.Bc3 Nxg4-+; 23.Qxg5 Nd8∓)* 23...N6xe5]

(Diagram)

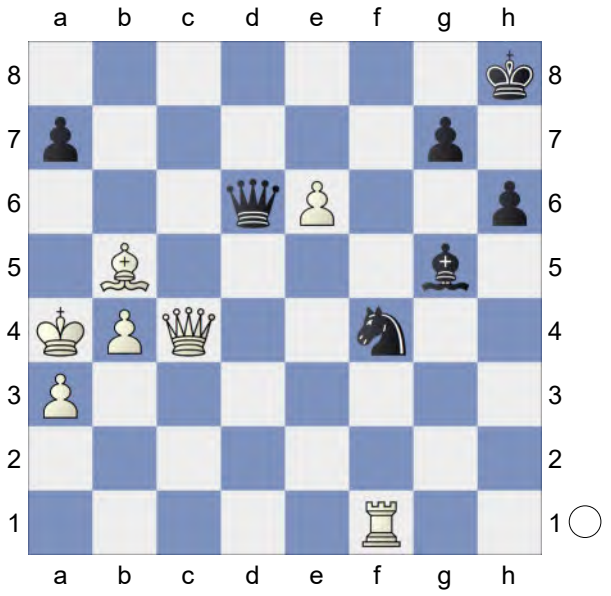


23.Rh3!± Bxe2 1.70/17
[23...Be4± 0.97/22]
24.Qxe2+- Nxb2 25.Qxb2 0.10/21
[White has to play 25.Kxb2+- 1.75/21 Black must now prevent Qd3. Nxd4 26.Qg4 Nxe6 27.Qxe6]
25...Qb6? 1.76/22
[25...Qe7!= 0.10/21 and Black stays safe. 26.Bxd5 Bxf4+ 27.Kb1 Qd7]
26.Kb1
[26.Bxd5 Bxf4+ 27.Kb1 Nxd4±]
26...Nxd4 1.20/18
[Better is 26...Bxf4+- 1.64/21 27.Ka2 *(27.Bxd5 Nxd4 28.Ka2 Rc8±; 27.Qc2 h6±)* 27...a5 *(27...Nxd4 28.Bxd5 Rc8 29.Re1±)*]
27.Bxd5± Rd3 would now be deadly.
27...Rd8 1.71/19
[27...Bxf4± 1.13/19 was called for. 28.Qg2 Qc7 *(28...Bxe5 29.Ka2±)*]
28.Be4+- Ne6 29.Rd3 Rxd3 30.Bxd3 Nxf4 31.Bc4 Qc6 32.Qd4 Bg5 Prevents Qd8+. **33.Kb2 Qg2+**

(Diagram)



34.Kb3! b5 4.70/21
[34...h5 3.15/20 keeps fighting. 35.Rf1 *(35.Qxa7 Qf3+ 36.Ka4 Qc6+ 37.Kb3 Qf3+ 38.Ka4 Qc6+ 39.Kb3 Qf3+=)* 35...a6]
35.Bxb5 White is clearly winning.
35...Qf3+ 36.Qc3 Qd5+ 37.Ka4 h6 38.Re1 Ne6 7.05/21
[⌓38...Qd8 4.94/20 39.e6 Bh4]
39.Qc4 Qd2 40.Rf1 Nf4 41.e6 Qd6



42.e7! Deflection **42...Qxe7 43.Rxf4 Bxf4 44.Qxf4** Hoping for Qb8+. **44...g5 45.Qd4+ Kh7 46.Bd3+ Kg8 47.Bc4+**

Kh7 48.Kb5 Qe8+ 49.Ka6 Qc8+ 50.Kxa7 Qe4+ would kill now. **50...Qc7+ 51.Ka6 Qc6+ 52.Ka5 Qa8+ 53.Ba6** b5 is the strong threat. **53...Kg6 54.b5 h5 55.b6** Weighted Error Value: White=0.65/Black=0.55. Loss on time!? **0-1**

89 **C11**
□ **Anand,Viswanathan** **2757**
■ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2822**
Superbet Blitz 2019 (10.2) 10.11.2019
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7** John Watson,MH: 'The first point of this move is to prepare the defense of g7 after' **5.Nce2** John Watson,MH: '5 Nh3 is seen in this month's game Aronian-Carlsen.'

[5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3]

5...c5 6.f4

[6.c3 -- *(6...Nc6; 6...cxd4 7.cxd4 f6 8.Nf4 Bb4+ 9.Bd2 Qb6 10.Bxb4 Qxb4+ 11.Qd2 Qxd2+ 12.Kxd2 Ke7 13.exf6+ gxf6 14.Re1 Nb6 15.Nf3 Nc6 16.Bb5 Bd7 17.Bxc6 bxc6 18.Re2 Rae8 19.Rhe1)*]

6...Nc6 7.c3 Qb6 John Watson,MH: '!?' John Watson,MH: 'The Caruana trademark development, used in the ancient games of Petrosian and Bronstein.'

[7...cxd4 8.cxd4 Bb4+± 9.Nc3 0-0!? 10.Nf3! f6

A) 11.Bd3!? fxe5 12.fxe5 Rxf3 prepares ...0-0-0 White has the theoretical edge but it's a game. 13.Qxf3 has been far more common, with reasonable results in the past couple of years. A typical line is Qh4+ 14.Qf2 Qxd4;

B) 11.a3 Bxc3+ 12.bxc3 a6 13.a4!? Na5 14.Bd3± Qc7!? 15.Qc2 f5 16.g4!? g6 17.gxf5 transposes into a main line that could have arisen after 5 a3 Bxc3+ 6 bxc3 b6 etc. exf5!? 18.h4!± We've seen Nb6 19.h5 Kg7 20.hxg6 h6 21.Qh2 before. Some examples with Caruana's ...Nc6 deployment: Rh8 22.Qh4 Qd8 23.Ba3 Nc6 24.Qh5 Nc4 25.Nh4 Nxa3 26.Nxf5+ Bxf5 27.Qxf5 Qf8 28.Qd7+ Qe7 29.Qxd5= Aronian,L (2752)-Caruana,F (2819) Stavanger 2019 Rad8 30.Qb3 Rhf8 31.Qxa3 Qxa3 32.Rxa3 Rxf4 33.Ke2 *(33.--)*;

C) 11.--]

[7...b5?! 8.a3

A) 8...c4 9.Nf3 Ernst,T (2328) - Mirzoev,E (2455) Uppsala 2019 Nb6! with the idea 10.g4? f5 11.gxf5 exf5 12.Bg2± *(12.h4?)* 12...Be7 13.0-0 h6 14.Rf2 Be6 15.Bf1 g5 16.fxg5 hxg5 17.h4 g4 18.Ng5 Bc8 19.Rh2 a5± Grischuk,A (2782)-Caruana,F (2799) Saint Louis 2017 20.Ng3 Ra6 21.Be3 Na4 22.Qc2 Rf8 23.Rf2 Qd7 24.e6;

B) 8...cxd4 9.Nxd4 Nxd4 10.cxd4± Nepomniachtchi,I (2775)-Caruana,F (2819) Paris 2019 b4! 11.a4 Qa5!± 12.Bd2 Caruana has played this repeatedly Be7 is normal *(12...Ba6)* 13.Nf3 is analysed in the game Wagner-Maghsoodloo in the Archives 0-0 14.Bb5 Nb6 15.b3 Ba6 16.Bxa6 Qxa6 17.a5 Nd7 18.Qe2 Nb8 19.Kf2 Qxe2+ 20.Kxe2 Nc6 21.Rhc1 Rfc8 22.Ra2 Rc7

23.Rac2 Rac8 24.a6 Kf8 25.g4 Ke8 26.f5 Kd7 27.Bf4 g5 28.Be3 h6 29.f6 Bf8 30.Kd3 Na5 31.Rxc7+ Rxc7 32.Rxc7+ Kxc7 33.Nxg5 hxg5 34.Bxg5 Nxb3 35.h4 Na1 36.Bc1 Nb3 37.Be3 Na5 38.g5 Nc4 39.Bc1;

C) 8...--]

8.Nf3 f6

[8...Be7 9.a3 0-0± 10.Ng3 f6 11.Bd3! cxd4 12.cxd4 fxe5! 13.fxe5± A complex tradeoff followed Ndxe5 *(13...Rxf3 14.gxf3 Nxd4)* 14.dxe5 Nxe5 15.Qe2 Ng4 *(15...Nxf3+ 16.gxf3 Bd7; 15...Nxd3+ 16.Qxd3±* in Soentges,K (2455)-Elagin,P (2408) ICCF corr 1999 *Bd7)* 16.h3 Bd6 17.Bxh7+?! Kxh7 18.hxg4+ Kg8 19.Nf1?! Qb3! 20.Rh3 e5 21.Nxe5? Qa4 22.b3]

9.a3 Be7 10.h4 0-0 11.Rh3 a5 John Watson,MH: '!?'

[11...Na5 12.b4 cxb4 13.axb4! Nc4 14.Ng3 a5+- 15.Bd3! f5 16.Ng5 Rd8 17.Qh5 Bxg5? 18.Qxg5 Rf8 19.Nh5 Rf7 20.Rg3 g6! 21.Bxc4 dxc4!± 22.b5! Qxb5 23.Ba3 b6 24.Qh6∞ Bb7? 25.Rxg6+ hxg6 26.Qxg6+ Kh8! 27.Qxf7 Rg8 28.Bf8]

12.b3 -0.27/20 John Watson,MH: '!?'

[⌓12.h5 0.20/17]

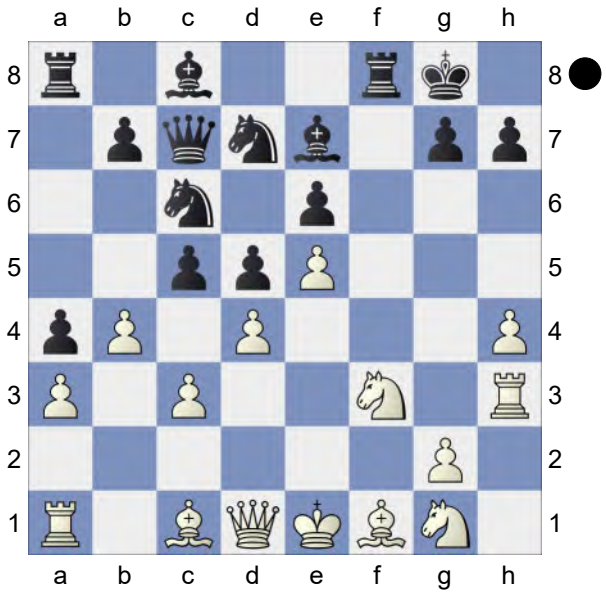
12...Qc7= 13.Neg1! a4 Threatens to win with ...axb3. John Watson,MH: '?!'

[13...b6 14.Be3 *(14.Bd3 cxd4 15.cxd4 fxe5 16.fxe5 Ncxe5)* 14...Ba6]

14.b4 John Watson,MH: '!' **14...fxe5 15.fxe5**

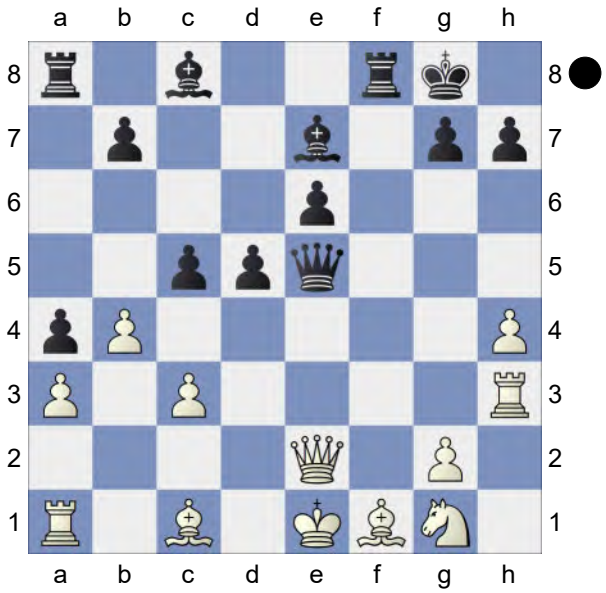
[15.dxe5 Ncxe5 16.fxe5 Nxe5 17.Bg5]

(Diagram)



John Watson,MH: 'Now Black can't activate his pieces.' **15...Ndxe5! 16.dxe5 Nxe5 17.Nxe5 Qxe5+ 18.Qe2** -0.67/20

[18.Ne2= 0.01/20]

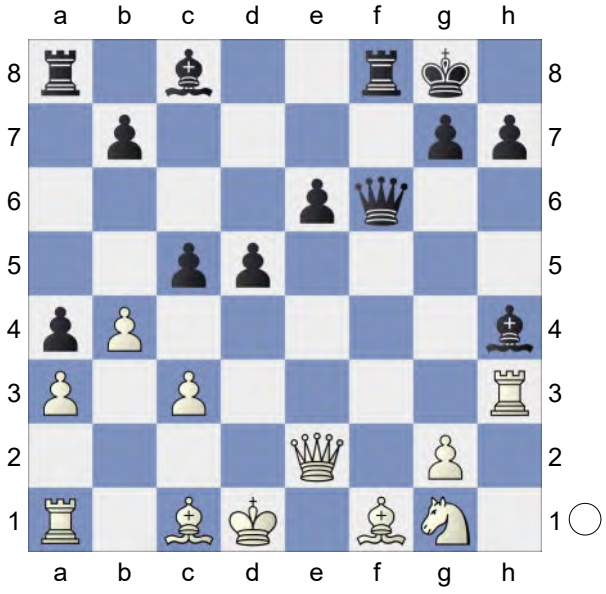


John Watson,MH: ' ±' John Watson,MH: 'White's pieces are well-placed, his bishop is better, and Black has pawn weaknesses.' **18...Bxh4+** 0.60/20

[18...Qc7]

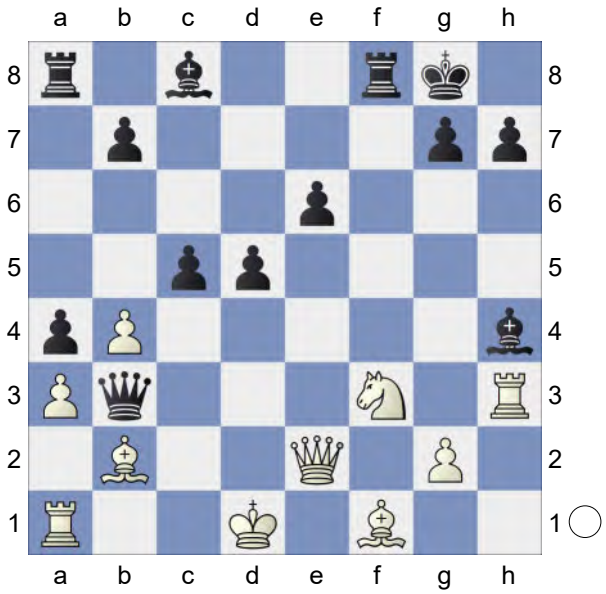
19.Kd1!± This move loses the game for Black. **19...Qf6** 3.38/19

[19...Bf6!= 0.14/19 and Black stays safe.]
[19...Qxe2+ 1.22/23 19...Bf6 0.45 20.Bxe2 Bf2 21.Be3 e5 22.Bxf2! Rxf2 23.Rg3]



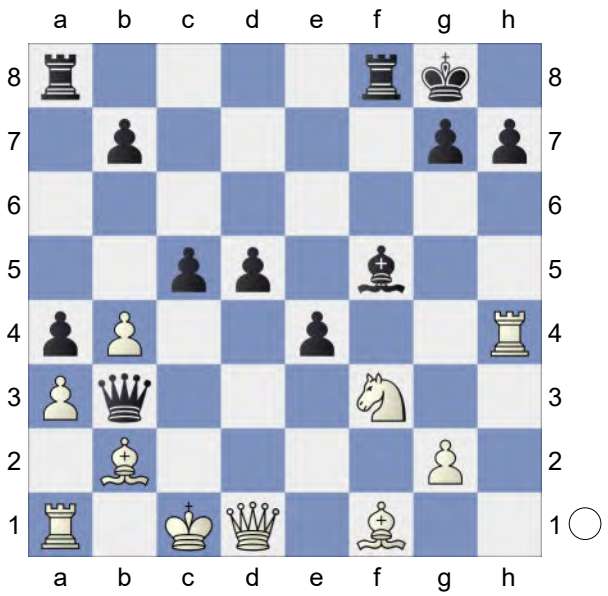
20.Nf3!+- John Watson,MH: '!'
[20.Rf3 Qd8± *(20...Qe7±)*]
20...Qxc3? 4.33/23
[20...g5 2.58/20 John Watson,MH: ' 2 0 . . . Q x c 3 1 . 9 8 ' 21.Nxh4 John Watson,MH: '!' John Watson, MH: 'Hoping for Rf3.' *(21.bxc5 e5=)* 21...Qxf1+ 22.Qxf1 Remove Defender Rxf1+ 23.Ke2 Rxc1 *(23...Rg1? 24.Rg3+-)* 24.Rxc1 gxh4 25.Rxh4 *(25.bxc5 Ra5+-)* 25...e5 26.bxc5 Ra5]
[20...e5! 21.Rxh4 e4 22.Rf4]
21.Bb2 Qb3+

(Diagram)



22.Kc1! e5 23.Rxh4 John Watson,MH: '!?' **23...Bf5 24.Qd1**
[24.bxc5 Ra5 25.Rb4 *(25.Bxe5? Rxc5+ 26.Kd2 Rc2+ 27.Ke1 Rxe2+ 28.Bxe2 Re8-+; 25.Qf2? d4-+)* 25...Rxc5+ 26.Kd2 Rc2+ 27.Kd1 Rxb2+ 28.Rxb3 Rxe2 29.Rxb7 Rf2± *(29...Re4±)*]
[24.Bxe5 Rae8 25.Kd2 *(25.bxc5 Rxe5 26.Qb2 Qe3+ 27.Qd2 Qxc5+ 28.Kb2 Be4±* John Watson,MH: '=')
25...Bg6± John Watson,MH: '+-']
[24.Nxe5 John Watson,MH: '?' Rac8 25.b5 c4= John Watson,MH: '-+']
24...e4 John Watson,MH: '

(Diagram)



' **25.Qxb3** John Watson,MH: '!' **25...axb3 26.Nd2 e3 27.Nf3**
[27.Nxb3 c4+-]
27...Rae8 28.Kd1
[Less strong is 28.bxc5 e2 29.Kd2 exf1N+ 30.Rxf1 Be4+- *(30...Re4+-)*]
28...c4 29.Be2 Be4 30.Kc1 Re6 5.43/16
[⌓30...Bd3 3.64/17 John Watson,MH: 'is a better defense.' 31.Rg4 g6 32.Bxd3 cxd3]
31.Bc3 White is clearly winning. John Watson,MH: '+-' **31...Rg6 32.Rh2**
[32.Rxe4 dxe4 33.Bxc4+ *(33.Nd4 Rf2+-; 33.Nh4 Rc6=)* 33...Kh8∓ John Watson,MH: '±']
32...Bd3 33.Bxd3 cxd3 34.Kb2 John Watson,MH: '+-' John Watson,MH: 'With an extra pawn and a winning game. ' **34...d2 35.Kxb3 Rg3 36.Kb2**
[36.Kc2]
36...g5 37.Kc2 Rc8 John Watson,MH: '!?' **38.Kd3 g4 39.Be5 Rc1 40.Rh1**
[40.Kxe3?
A) 40...d1R? loses. 41.Rxc1 Rxf3+ *(41...Rxc1 42.Bxg3+-)* 42.gxf3+-;
B) 40...d1Q 41.Rxc1 Qxc1+-+]
[40.Nxd2 Rxa1 41.Bxa1 *(41.Bxg3 exd2 42.Kxd2 Ra2+ 43.Ke1 b6+-)* 41...exd2+ 42.Kxd2 Rxa3+-]
40...Rxg2 Weighted Error Value: White=0.20 (precise) /Black=0.73
41.Nh4 John Watson,MH: 'The rest is technique.'
[41.Nd4?? -2.08/24 41.Nh4 4.32 d1Q+ 42.Rxd1 Rd2+! 43.Rxd2 exd2]
[Much less strong is 41.Raxc1 dxc1B 42.Rxc1 gxf3 43.Kxe3 Re2+ 44.Kf4 *(44.Kxf3 Rxe5 45.Rc5 h5=; 44.Kd4 Rd2+ 45.Kc5 Kf7+-)* 44...h5+- *(44...Kf7+-)*]
1-0

90 **C11**
□ **Firouzja,Alireza** **2751**
■ **Aronian,Levon** **2729**
Saint Louis Blitz 2024 (11.5) 16.08.2024
[Kitty Kat]

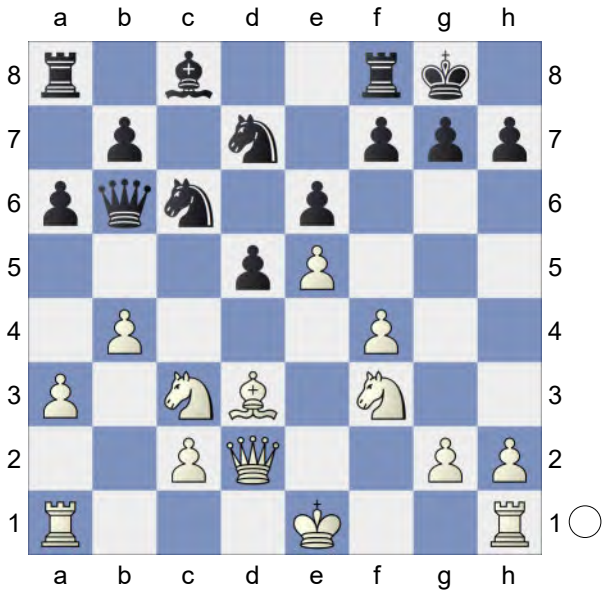
C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 Intel(R) Xeon(R) CPU E5-2686 v3 ↻ 2.00GHz 1995 MHz W=14.2 plies; 2.004kN/s; Perfect2021.ctg B=16.9 plies; 1.627kN/s; Perfect2021.ctg **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Be7 8.a3 a6N** 0.68/20
[8...Qb6= 0.29/21]
[8...0-0 9.Qd2 *(9.dxc5 Bxc5 10.Bxc5 Nxc5 11.b4 Nd7 12.Bd3 f6 13.0-0 Qb6+ 14.Kh1 Qe3 15.exf6 Nxf6 16.Qc1 Ng4 17.Qxe3 Nxe3 18.Rfe1 Ng4 19.g3 Nf2+ 20.Kg2 Nxd3 21.cxd3 Bd7 22.Rac1 Rac8 23.Ne2 a6* 0-1 15.b3 g6 16.♗b2_23202 (2514)-Lomakina,O (2626) Malmoe/Kobenhavn 90/458 2004 (8.4) *24.Ned4 Nxd4 25.Nxd4 Kf7 26.Kf2 Kf6 27.Nf3 h6 28.Ke3*

Rfd8 29.Kd4 Bb5 30.Ne5 Be8 31.h3 Bb5 32.g4 Be8 33.Rf1 Ke7 34.Rce1 Rd6 35.Rc1 Rxc1 36.Rxc1 Kd8 37.h4 Rb6 38.Rc5 Rd6 0-1 15.b3 g6 16.Bb2 (2514)-Lomakina,O (2626) Malmoe/Kobenhavn 90/458 2004 (8.4) *)* 9...b6 10.g3 Kh8 11.h4 f6 12.exf6 Nxf6 13.Bh3 Bd7 14.Rd1 cxd4 15.Nxd4 e5 16.Nxc6 Bxc6 17.fxe5 d4 18.exf6 Bxf6 19.0-0 dxc3 20.Qxd8 Raxd8 21.Rxd8 Rxd8 22.b3 Re8 23.Bf2 1-0 Fedorchuk,S (2655)-Michiels,B (2461) BEL-chT 0910 2009 (11) Be4 24.Re1 Re7 25.Rc1 h5 26.Bg2 Bf5 27.Bf3 g6 28.a4 Kh7 29.b4 g5 30.a5 g4 31.axb6 axb6 32.Bc6 Re2 33.Bxb6 Be5 34.b5 Kg7 35.Ba5 Rxc2 36.Rxc2 Bxc2 37.Kf2 Bd3 38.Ke3 0-1 Kavakul,M (2765)-Molina,R (2823) 1883-4 corr (5)]

[8...b6 9.Be2 0-0 10.0-0 Bb7 11.Qe1 cxd4 12.Nxd4 Nxd4 13.Bxd4 Nc5 14.b4 Ne4 15.Nxe4 dxe4 16.Qf2 Qd7 17.Qe3 Rfd8 18.Rad1 Qa4 19.c4 Rac8 20.Rd2 Rc7 21.Bd1 Qa6 22.Bb3 Qxa3 23.Ra1 0-1 Deep Fritz-Gull SCCT (3m+2s(Champions 2021 (13.5)]

9.dxc5± Bxc5 10.Bxc5 White is better. **10...Nxc5 11.b4 Nd7 12.Bd3 Qb6 13.Qd2 0-0**

(Diagram)



14.Qf2 0.32/22

[14.Rf1!± 0.88/19]

14...Qxf2+ 15.Kxf2 Nb6 0.74/20

[15...f6± 0.36/22]

16.Ne2 0.07/20 White has more active pieces. The black rooks are passive.

[16.Rhb1± 0.74/20]

16...Bd7 0.57/20

[Better is 16...f6= 0.07/20]

17.c3 -0.19/22

[17.Rhb1± 0.57/20]

17...Na7 18.Nfd4 Rfc8 19.h4 Bb5 20.Nxb5 Nxb5 21.Rh3 Na4

[21...Nxc3? 22.Nxc3 Rxc3 23.Bxh7+ Kxh7 24.Rxc3+-]

22.Rc1 Nb2

[22...Nxa3? 23.Ra1+-]

23.f5? -1.69/22

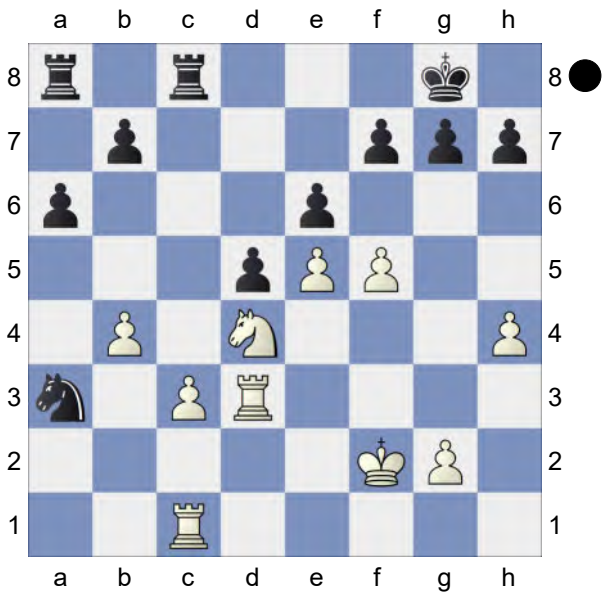
[23.Ra1= -0.01/24 and White has nothing to worry.]

23...Nxa3-+ 24.Nd4 Nxd3+ -1.25/18

[24...Re8-+ -1.63/24 25.fxe6 Nxd3+ *(25...fxe6 26.Be2∓)* 26.Rxd3 fxe6]

25.Rxd3∓

(Diagram)



Nb5 -0.01/17
[25...Re8!∓ -1.49/21 And now ...Nc4 would win. 26.fxe6 fxe6]
26.fxe6= Hoping for Nxb5. **26...Nxd4 27.exf7+ Kxf7 28.Rxd4** Endgame KRR-KRR **28...Ke6 29.Rcd1! Rxc3 30.Rxd5 Rf8+ 31.Kg1 Rf7 32.b5 a5 33.b6 Rb3 34.Rxa5 Rxb6 35.Rd2 Rd7 36.Re2** -0.50/22
[36.Rxd7= -0.01/19 Kxd7 37.Kf2]
36...Rb4 -0.01/21
[36...Rd4∓ -0.50/22]
37.h5 -0.45/22
[37.Ra3= -0.01/21]
37...Rh4 -0.01/27
[37...Rd1+∓ -0.45/22 is superior. 38.Kh2 *(38.Kf2 Rh1∓)* 38...Rbb1 *(38...Rh4+ 39.Kg3∓)*]
38.Rb5 The position is equal. **38...Rxh5 39.Rb6+ Ke7 40.e6 Rc7 41.Reb2 Rg5 42.Rxb7 Rxb7 43.Rxb7+ Kxe6** KR-KR. Black is a pawn up. **44.Kf2 Kf6 45.g3 Rc5 46.Rb3 Kg5 47.Kf3 h5 48.Ra3 Kf5 49.Rb3 Ra5 50.Rc3 g6 51.Rb3 Ke5 52.Re3+ Kd4 53.Rb3 Rf5+ 54.Kg2 Rc5 55.Rb4+ Kd3 56.Rb3+ Rc3 57.Rb6 g5 58.Rb5 Rc2+ 59.Kg1 g4 60.Rxh5 Ke4 61.Ra5 Re2 62.Kf1 Rb2 63.Ra4+ Kf3 64.Ra3+ Ke4 65.Ra4+ Kf3 66.Ra3+ Ke4 67.Ra4+** Weighted Error Value: White=0.16 (very precise) /Black=0.13 (very precise) **67...Kf3**
½-½

91 **C11**
□ **Dominguez Perez,Leinier** **2748**
■ **Aronian,Levon** **2729**
Saint Louis Blitz 2024 (3.2) 15.08.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 Kitty Kat: 'C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 Browne,W: 'Inf 100/189'' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Be7 8.Qd2 a6 9.Be2 b5 10.0-0 0-0 11.Nd1**
[11.a3 Bb7 12.Nd1 Qc7 13.Nf2 Rac8 14.c3 Na5 15.Qd1 cxd4 16.Bxd4 Nc4 17.Bd3 Nc5 18.Qc2 h6 19.Rfe1 a5 20.f5 Nxd3 21.Qxd3 exf5 22.Qxf5 Rce8 23.Ng4 Bc5 24.Ng5 hxg5 25.Qxg5 f5 1-0 Vallejo Pons,F (2687)-Xu,Y (2562) Changsha 141/92 2019]
11...cxd4N The position is equal.
[11...b4 12.Nf2 a5 13.dxc5 Nxc5 14.c4 *(14.Nd4 Nxd4 15.Bxd4 Ba6 16.Rae1 Qc7 17.Kh1 Rfc8 18.Qe3 Bxe2 19.Rxe2 Ra6 20.g4 Rc6 21.f5 Kh8 22.f6 gxf6 23.exf6 Bd6 24.Qh6 Rg8 25.Qh5 Rg6 26.Nh3 Ne4 27.Rxe4 dxe4 28.Ng5 Rxg5* 0-1 Comas,F (2447)-Brenninkmeijer,J (2574) (open) 61/473 1994 *29.Qxg5 Bf8 30.c3 a4 31.a3 bxa3 32.bxa3 Qb7 33.Kg1 Rc8 34.Re1 Qd5 35.Qe3 Bxa3 36.Ra1 Bf8 37.Rxa4 e5 38.Qg5 Qb3* 0-1 Browne,W

(2526)-De Guzman,R (2481) 119/112 Reno 2013 *)* 14...dxc4 15.Bxc4 Bb7 16.Qe2 Rc8 17.Rac1 Nb8 18.Rfd1 Qb6 19.Nd4 Nbd7 20.Ng4 Qc7 21.Nb5 Qb8 22.Nd6 Bxd6 23.Rxd6 Bc6 24.Rcd1 Qb7 25.h3 Rc7 26.Nf6+ 1-0 Adhiban,B (2535)-Nandhidhaa,P (2339) Masters Open 2024 (1.32)]

12.Nxd4 Nxd4 13.Bxd4 Nb8 14.Ne3 -0.24/17

[14.c3± 0.35/18]

14...Nc6= 15.c3 b4 16.Bd3 -0.53/17

[16.Kh1= -0.14/19]

16...Rb8 -0.02/17

[16...g6!∓ -0.53/17]

17.Qf2 -1.03/22

[17.f5= -0.02/17 Bg5 18.Qe2 exf5 19.Nxf5]

17...bxc3∓ 18.bxc3 Nxd4 19.cxd4 Rb4 20.Nc2 Ra4 -0.39/17

[20...Rb2!∓ -1.00/19 Threatens to win with ...Qb6. 21.g3 Qb6]

21.f5 -0.93/19

[White should try 21.Qf3∓ -0.39/17]

21...exf5 22.Bxf5 Bxf5 -0.32/16

[22...g6∓ -0.87/18 23.Bxc8 Qxc8]

23.Qxf5∓ Qc8 24.Qd3 Bg5 0.01/20

[Better is 24...Qc4∓ -0.53/19 25.Qd1 Rc8 *(25...Rxa2 26.Ne3∓)*]

25.Ne3= Bxe3+ 26.Qxe3 Qc4 27.Rf4

[27.e6 Qxd4 28.Qxd4 Rxd4=]

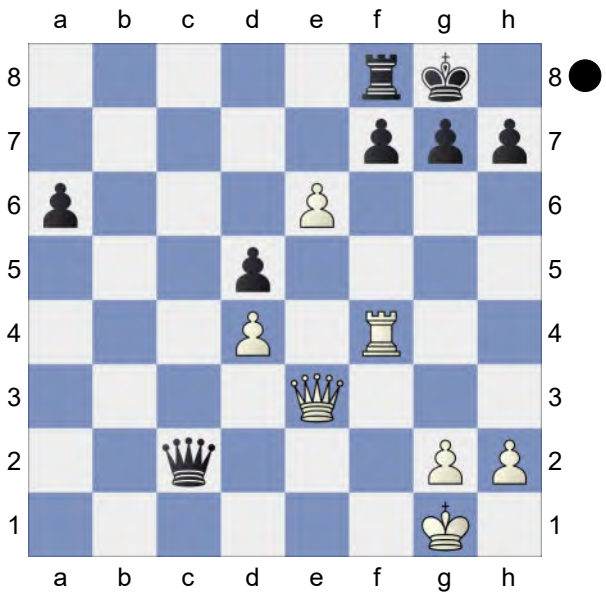
27...Rxa2 28.Rxa2 Qxa2

Endgame KQR-KQR. Black is a pawn up. **29.e6 Qb1+ 30.Kf2**

[30.Rf1 Qb5∓]

30...Qc2+! 31.Kg1

(Diagram)



Qb1+? 0.01/25

[31...Qc6!-+ -2.33/27 32.exf7+ *(32.e7 Re8∓)* 32...Rxf7 33.Rxf7 Kxf7]

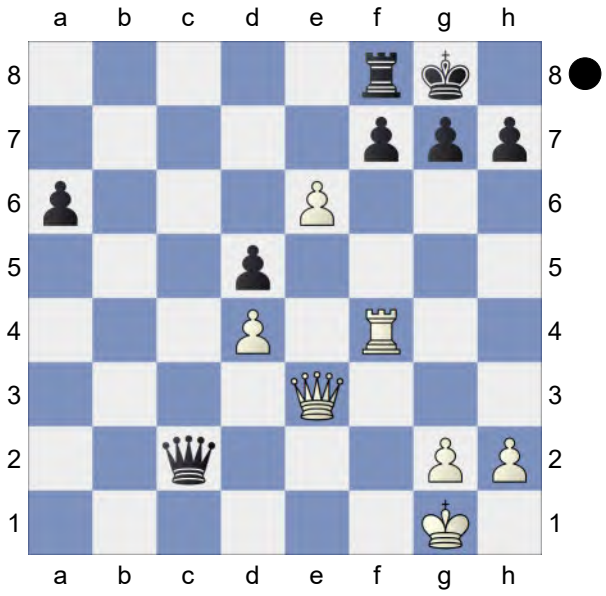
32.Kf2

[Much worse is 32.Rf1 Qb5∓]

32...Qc2+

[32...Qb4 simplifies 33.exf7+ Rxf7 34.Rxf7 Kxf7 35.Qf3+ Ke6]

White is now going downhill. **33.Kg1**



Strongly threatening exf7+. **33...Qc6!**

34.e7 Re8 35.Rf1? -3.78/21

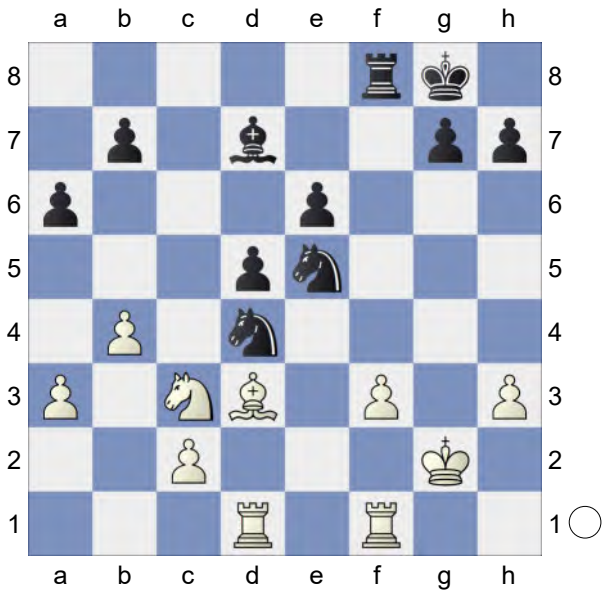
[35.Rf5 -1.93/22]

35...Qe6-+ 36.Qxe6 fxe6 KR-KR. Black is a pawn up. **37.Ra1 Kf7**
[37...Rxe7 38.Rxa6 Kf7 39.h4∓]
38.Rxa6 Rxe7 39.Kf2? -5.12/26
[39.Ra3 -2.97/21]
39...Rb7 Black is clearly winning. **40.Ra4** -6.47/26
[⌓40.Ra3 -4.53/25 Rb2+ 41.Kg1]
40...Rb3 41.Ra7+ Kf6 42.Ra4 g5 43.Ra7 -7.27/26
[⌓43.g4 -4.63/25 Rd3 44.Kg2]
43...h5 44.Ra4 h4 45.h3 Kf5 46.Ra8 Rd3 47.Rf8+ Kg6
[47...Ke4? 48.Rf6-+]
48.Re8 Kf6
[48...Rxd4 49.Rxe6+ Kf5 50.Rd6∓]
49.Rf8+ Kg7 50.Re8 Kf7
[Weaker is 50...Rxd4 51.Rxe6 Kf7 52.Ra6∓]
51.Ra8 Weighted Error Value: White=0.52/Black=0.29 (precise) **51...Rxd4**
0-1

92 **C11**
□ **Firouzja,Alireza** **2744**
■ **Aronian,Levon** **2729**
SuperUnited CRO Blitz 2024 (5.2)
[Kitty Kat]

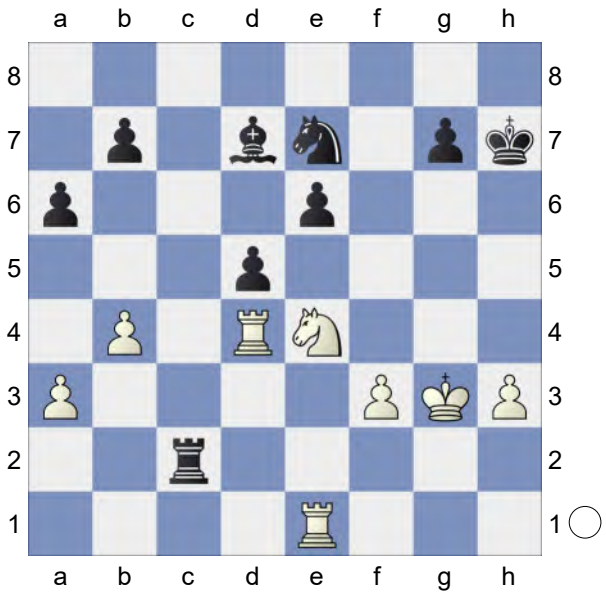
C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 Intel(R) Xeon(R) CPU E5-2686 v3 ↻ 2.00GHz 1995 MHz W=14.2 plies; 2.004kN/s; Perfect2021.ctg B=16.9 plies; 1.627kN/s; Perfect2021.ctg **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Be7 8.a3 a6N** 0.63/18
[8...Qb6= 0.21/18 feels stronger.]
[8...0-0 9.Qd2 *(9.dxc5 Bxc5 10.Bxc5 Nxc5 11.b4 Nd7 12.Bd3 f6 13.0-0 Qb6+ 14.Kh1 Qe3 15.exf6 Nxf6 16.Qc1 Ng4 17.Qxe3 Nxe3 18.Rfe1 Ng4 19.g3 Nf2+ 20.Kg2 Nxd3 21.cxd3 Bd7 22.Rac1 Rac8 23.Ne2 a6* 0-1 15.b3 g6 16.♗b2_23202 (2514)-Lomakina,O (2626) Malmoe/Kobenhavn 90/458 2004 (8.4) *24.Ned4 Nxd4 25.Nxd4 Kf7 26.Kf2 Kf6 27.Nf3 h6 28.Ke3 Rfd8 29.Kd4 Bb5 30.Ne5 Be8 31.h3 Bb5 32.g4 Be8 33.Rf1 Ke7 34.Rce1 Rd6 35.Rc1 Rxc1 36.Rxc1 Kd8 37.h4 Rb6 38.Rc5 Rd6* 0-1 15.b3 g6 16.Bb2 (2514)-Lomakina,O (2626) Malmoe/Kobenhavn 90/458 2004 (8.4) *)* 9...b6 10.g3 Kh8 11.h4 f6 12.exf6 Nxf6 13.Bh3 Bd7 14.Rd1 cxd4 15.Nxd4 e5 16.Nxc6 Bxc6 17.fxe5 d4 18.exf6 Bxf6 19.0-0 dxc3 20.Qxd8 Raxd8 21.Rxd8 Rxd8 22.b3 Re8 23.Bf2 1-0 Fedorchuk,S (2655)-Michiels,B (2461) BEL-chT 0910 2009 (11) Be4 24.Re1 Re7 25.Rc1 h5 26.Bg2 Bf5 27.Bf3 g6 28.a4 Kh7 29.b4 g5 30.a5 g4 31.axb6 axb6 32.Bc6 Re2 33.Bxb6 Be5 34.b5 Kg7 35.Ba5 Rxc2 36.Rxc2 Bxc2 37.Kf2 Bd3 38.Ke3 0-1 Kavakul,M (2765)-Molina,R (2823) 1883-4 corr (5)]
[8...b6 9.Be2 0-0 10.0-0 Bb7 11.Qe1 cxd4 12.Nxd4 Nxd4 13.Bxd4 Nc5 14.b4 Ne4 15.Nxe4 dxe4 16.Qf2 Qd7 17.Qe3 Rfd8 18.Rad1 Qa4 19.c4 Rac8 20.Rd2 Rc7 21.Bd1 Qa6 22.Bb3 Qxa3 23.Ra1 0-1 Deep Fritz-Gull SCCT (3m+2s(Champions 2021 (13.5)]
9.dxc5!± Bxc5 10.Bxc5 White is better.
10...Nxc5 11.b4 Nd7 12.Bd3 Qb6 13.Qd2 0-0 14.Qf2 Qxf2+ 15.Kxf2 f6 16.exf6 Nxf6 17.Rhe1 Ng4+ 1.05/20
[17...Bd7± 0.47/20]
18.Kg3 0.13/20 White is more active.
[18.Kg1± 1.05/20]

18...Nf6= 19.Kh4 Dodges Nh5 **19...Bd7 20.Rad1** -0.01/18
[20.Na4!± 0.40/19]
20...Ne8? 1.65/19
[20...Rac8= -0.01/18]
21.Kg3 0.25/20
[21.f5!+- 1.65/19 Nc7 22.fxe6 Bxe6 23.Kg3]
21...Nf6 22.Kf2 0.01/20
[22.f5± 0.37/21]
22...Ng4+ 0.71/21
[22...Rac8= 0.01/20]
23.Kg1!± Rxf4 24.h3 Rxf3 25.gxf3 Nge5 26.Kg2 Rf8 27.Rf1 -0.01/21
[Better is 27.Na4!± 1.04/22]
27...Nd4 0.96/21
[27...Ne7= -0.01/21 remains equal.]



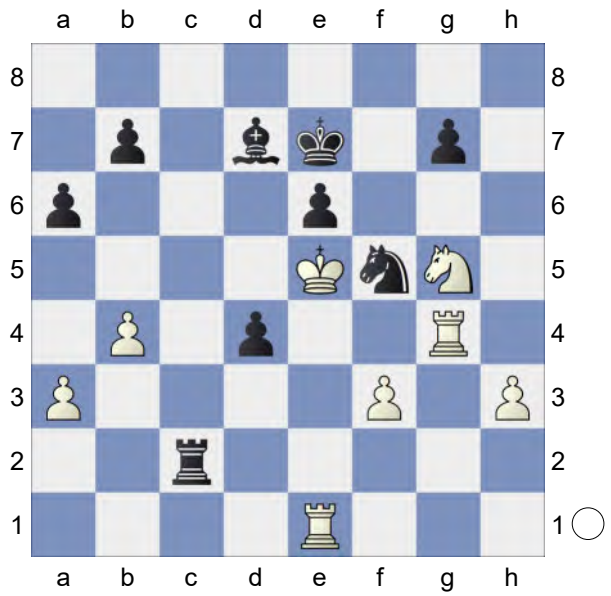
28.Bxh7+! Discovered Attack **28...Kxh7 29.Rxd4 Rc8?** 2.76/21
[29...Nc4± 0.71/18 30.Ra1 Kg8 *(30...Ne3+ 31.Kf2±)*]
30.Re1+- Ng6 2.93/23
[30...Nxf3 31.Kxf3 Rxc3+ 32.Re3 Rxc2 33.Kf4±]
[30...Nf7 2.04/20 was necessary. 31.Ne4 Pin Rxc2+ 32.Rd2 Rxd2+ 33.Nxd2 e5]

31.Ne4! Pin
[Stronger than 31.Re3 e5 32.Rxd5 Rxc3 *(32...Nf4+ 33.Kg3=)* 33.Rxc3 Nf4+ 34.Kf2 Nxd5=]
31...Rxc2+ 32.Kg3 Ne7



33.Ng5+? 0.09/22
[33.Rd2!+- 2.64/21 Nf5+ 34.Kg2]
33...Kg6= 34.Rg4
[34.Nxe6 simplifies Nf5+ 35.Kf4 Nxd4 36.Nxd4 Ra2 37.Re7]
34...Nf5+ 35.Kf4 Kf6 ...Rc4+ is the strong threat. **36.Nh7+ Kf7** Black has compensation. **37.Ke5 d4** 0.93/21
[37...Ra2= -0.03/23]
38.Ng5+± Ke7

(Diagram)

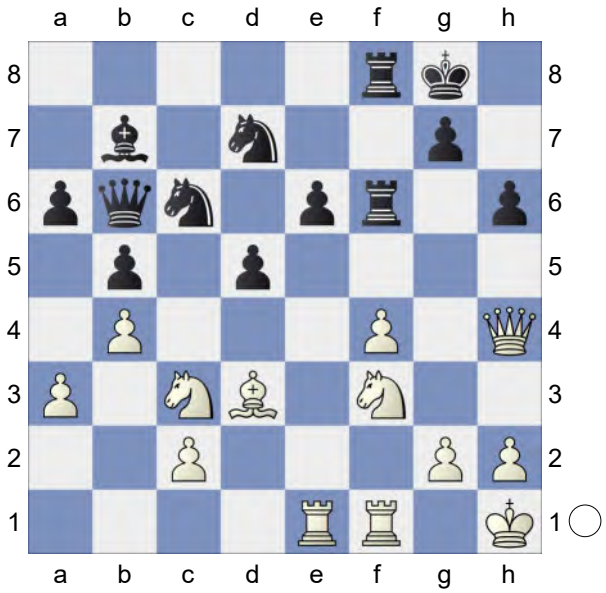


39.Ne4! Prevents Rc3 **39...b6?** 5.12/20
[39...d3± 0.82/18]
40.Ng3+- Black must now prevent Nxf5+. **40...d3** 7.18/22
[⌓40...Nd6 4.58/21 41.Rxg7+ Nf7+ 42.Kxd4 e5+ 43.Kd3 *(43.Rxe5+ Kf8+-)* 43...Ra2]
41.Nxf5+ Remove Defender **41...exf5 42.Rxg7+** Endgame KRR-KRB **42...Kd8 43.Rd1 Bb5 44.Kxf5 Ra2 45.Ke5 Rxa3 46.Kd6 Ke8 47.Re7+** 5.48/5
[⌓47.Rc1 #5/12 Kf8 48.Re7 Bc4 49.Rxc4 Rc3 50.Rxc3 Kg8 51.Rc8#]
47...Kf8 Weighted Error Value: White=0.40/Black=0.96 **48.Rc1**
1-0

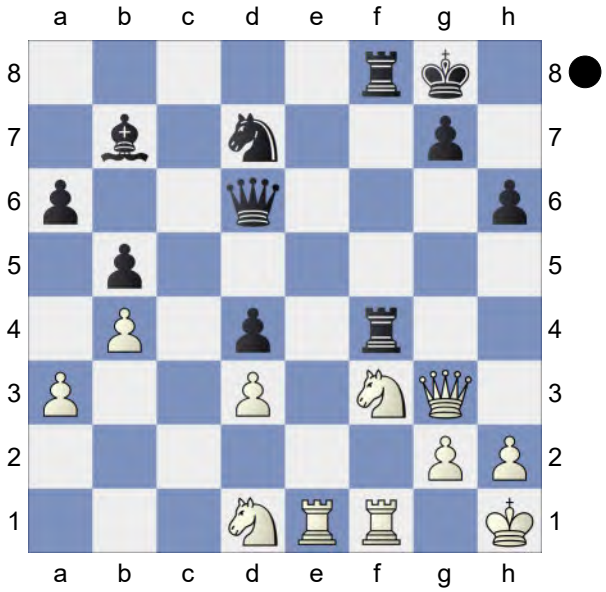
93 **C11**
□ **Duda,Jan Krzysztof** **2743**
■ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2823**
chess.com Speed 2020 (1.11) 15.11.20
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Be7 8.Qd2 a6 9.Be2 b5 10.0-0 0-0 11.a3 Qb6** White has an edge.
[11...Bb7 12.Nd1 f6 13.c3 Rc8 14.Bd3 Na5 15.Qe2 fxe5 16.fxe5 cxd4 17.cxd4 Nb6 18.Nf2 Nbc4 19.Nh3 Nxe3 20.Qxe3 Nc4 21.Qe2 g6 22.Rf2 Qb6 23.Raf1 b4 24.axb4 Qxb4 25.Nhg5 Qb6 26.Kh1 1-0 Grischuk,A (2761)-Caruana,F (2808) GCT Rapid Paris 2017 (7.2)]
[11...Qc7 12.dxc5 Nxc5 13.Nd4 Ne4 14.Nxe4 dxe4 15.Qc3 Bd7 16.Nxc6 Qxc6 17.Qxc6 Bxc6 18.Kf2 f6 19.exf6 Bxf6 20.c3 Bd5 21.Rad1 Bb3 22.Rd7 Rfd8 23.Rb7 Rd6 24.g4 h6 25.g5 hxg5 26.fxg5 ½-½ Vidit,S (2714)-Melkumyan,H (2634) Olympiad-44 Chennai 2022 (8.2)]
12.dxc5N
[12.Nd1 a5 13.c3 a4 14.Bd3 cxd4 *(14...Na5 15.Qe2 Nb3 16.Rb1 Ba6 17.dxc5 Ndxc5 18.Bxh7+ Kxh7 19.Ng5+ Bxg5 20.fxg5 g6 21.Qf2 Kg7 22.Qf6+ Kg8 23.Rf3 Nd7 24.Bxb6 Nxf6 25.exf6 Nd2 26.Rc1 Nxf3+ 27.gxf3* 4 Chapter-Games Chapter 11 Game*)* 15.Nxd4 Nc5 16.Bc2 Na5 17.Qe2 Nc4 18.Rf3 g6 19.Rh3 Ra7 20.Bf2 Rc7 21.Bh4 f6 22.Nf2 f5 23.Bxe7 Rxe7 24.Nd3 Ne4 25.Kh1 Bd7 26.Rf1 Qc7 0-1 Johansen,D (2512)-11.Qa4 dc4 12.Qc4 (2554) 112/284 Russia 2011 27.Bb1 Kh8 28.Rh6 Rg8 29.Nf3 Qb6 30.Nd4 Qd8 31.Nf3 Qf8 32.Rh3 Reg7 33.Nf2 Qc5 34.Ng5 Rf8 35.Nfxe4 fxe4 36.Ba2 Na5 37.g3 Nc6 38.Kg2 Nd8 39.Qf2 Qe7 40.Qd4 Nf7 41.Nxf7+ Rfxf7 0-1 Johansen,D (2512)-11. ♕a4 dc4 12.♕c4_17517 (2554) 112/284 Russia 2011]

12...Bxc5 13.Bxc5 Nxc5 14.Kh1 -0.38/23
[14.Qe3!= 0.15/23]
14...Bb7 0.13/24
[14...d4∓ -0.38/23 15.Na2 *(15.Nxd4 Rd8∓)* 15...Bb7]
15.Bd3= Rad8 0.96/25
[15...b4= 0.03/24 keeps the balance. 16.axb4 Nxb4]
16.Qf2!± h6 17.b4 Nd7 1.08/23
[17...Na4± 0.68/24 is superior. 18.Nxa4 Qxf2 19.Rxf2 bxa4]
18.Qh4 0.64/22
[18.Qg3± 1.08/23]
18...f6 1.14/23
[18...f5± 0.64/22]
19.exf6 0.01/24
[Better is 19.Rae1± 1.14/23]
19...Rxf6 0.54/23
[19...Nxf6= 0.01/24 20.Rad1 Rde8]
20.Rae1± Rdf8? 2.02/24
[20...Qc7± 0.46/23]



21.f5? 0.22/23 **Nd8= 22.fxe6** 0.01/23
[22.Qg3± 0.47/27]
22...Nxe6 23.Qg4
[23.Qg3 looks sharper. Nf4 24.Re7 R6f7 25.Rfe1]
23...Qd6 24.Nd1? -2.10/25
[24.Qg3= 0.01/25 and White is okay. Nf4 25.Ne2]
24...Nf4-+ Threatens to win with ...Ne5!.
25.Ne3 -2.67/28
[⌓25.Nf2 -1.70/25]
25...Nxd3 26.cxd3 Rf4 27.Qg3 d4
28.Nd1 -9.65/24
[28.Ng4 -2.19/23]



28...Ne5! Black is clearly winning.
29.Nd2
[29.Re4 Bxe4]
29...Rg4 30.Rxf8+ Qxf8 31.Rxe5 Rxg3 32.hxg3 Qc8 33.Nf2 Prevents Qh3+. Weighted Error Value: White=1.00/Black=0.31 **33...Qc1+**
0-1

94 **C11**
□ **Dominguez Perez,Leinier** **2741**
■ **Aronian,Levon** **2738**
ch-USA 2024 Saint Louis USA (4.4)
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 Inf 67/ (368) **1.e4 e6 2.d4**

d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.Qd2 b5 9.Be2 cxd4N

[9...Qb6 10.0-0 *(10.Nd1 cxd4 11.Nxd4 Nxd4 12.Bxd4 Bc5 13.c3 a5 14.0-0 0-0 15.Ne3 b4 16.Rf3 Ba6 17.Bxa6 Rxa6 18.f5 bxc3 19.bxc3 Bxd4 20.cxd4 f6 21.fxe6 Qxe6 22.exf6 Rxf6 23.Rxf6 Nxf6 24.Rb1 Rb6* Sorokin,M (2144)-10.a3 f5 11.Nc3 Nc7 (1817) Buenos Aires 2023 CT-1677 [John Watson] 1-0 (34) *)* 10...cxd4 11.Nxd4 Bc5 12.Rad1 Bb7 13.Bf2 Nxd4 14.Bxd4 Rc8 15.Bf2 Bxf2+ 16.Rxf2 0-0 17.a3 Qc5 French-8.Qd2 b5 9.Be2 Survey 2020 Lexikon20 [Psakhis, Ftacnik]]

[9...Be7 10.0-0 0-0 11.a3 Rb8 12.Kh1 Qc7 13.dxc5 Nxc5 14.b4 Ne4 15.Nxe4 dxe4 16.Nd4 Nxd4 17.Bxd4 Bb7 18.c3 Bd5 19.Qe3 Qc6 20.g4 f5 21.exf6 Bxf6 22.Bc5 Rf7 23.Rad1 Be7 24.Bxe7 4.d4 Nf6 5.Nf3 Nc6 (2791)-Chaudagne,C (2642) DDR 2017 200 Traps In The Opening [Rabinovich,A] ½-½ (36)]

[9...b4 10.Na4 cxd4 11.Nxd4 Nxd4 12.Bxd4 Be7 13.0-0 0-0 14.Qe3 a5 15.c4 dxc4 16.Bxc4 Ba6 17.Bxa6 Rxa6 18.Rac1 Qb8 19.Qd3 Qb7 20.Qc4 Reefat,S (2465)-Bareev,E (2655) Yerevan (ol) 1996 Informant 67 [RR]]

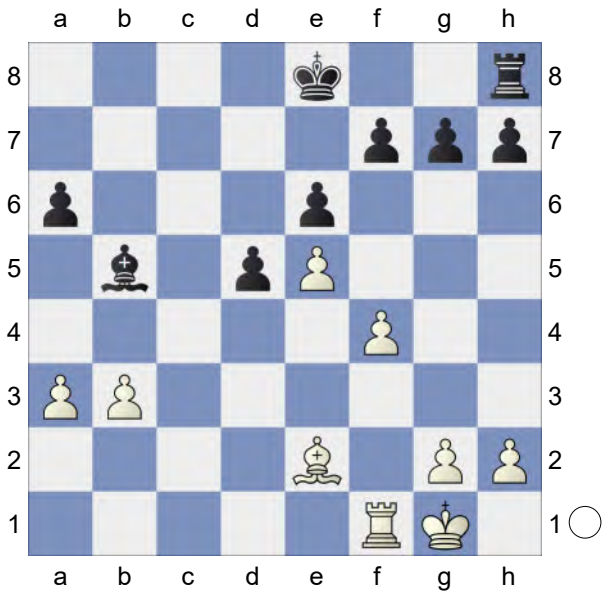
10.Nxd4 Nxd4 11.Bxd4 Bc5 White is slightly better. **12.Bxc5 Nxc5 13.Qd4 Qb6** 0.64/25

[13...Qh4+= 0.25/24 deserves consideration. 14.g3 Qe7]

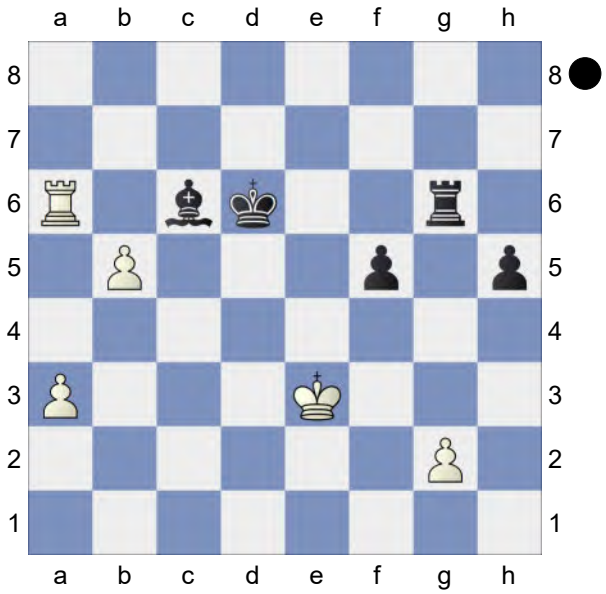
14.a3 0.19/25

[14.b4± 0.64/25 Na4 15.Qxb6 Nxb6 16.a4]

14...Rb8 The position is equal. **15.0-0 Na4 16.Qxb6 Rxb6 17.Nxa4 bxa4 18.Rab1 Bd7 19.b3 axb3 20.Rxb3 Rxb3 21.cxb3=** Endgame KRB-KRB **21...Bb5**



22.Rc1! Kd7 23.Bf3 Rf8 24.Kf2 f6 25.exf6 Rxf6 26.Ke3 h6 27.h4 Bc6 28.Rc5 Kd6 29.Ra5 Bb7 30.h5 g6 31.hxg6 Rxg6 32.b4 h5 33.f5 exf5 34.Bxd5 Bxd5 35.Rxa6+ KRB-KR **35...Bc6** White must now prevent ...Ke5. **36.b5!**

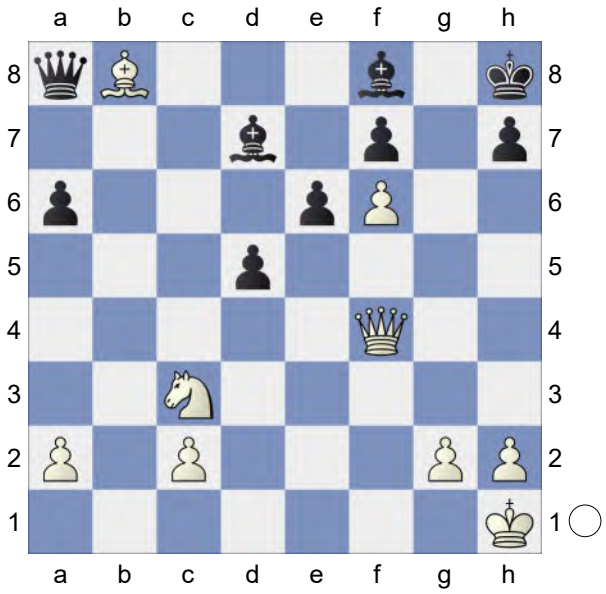


Pin **36...Rxg2 37.Rxc6+** KR-KR

37...Kd5 38.Rh6 Rg3+ 39.Kf4 Rxa3 40.Rxh5 Rb3 41.Kxf5 Rxb5 42.Kf6+ Kc4 43.Rxb5 Kxb5 Weighted Error Value: White=0.03 (flawless) / Black=0.02 (flawless)
½-½

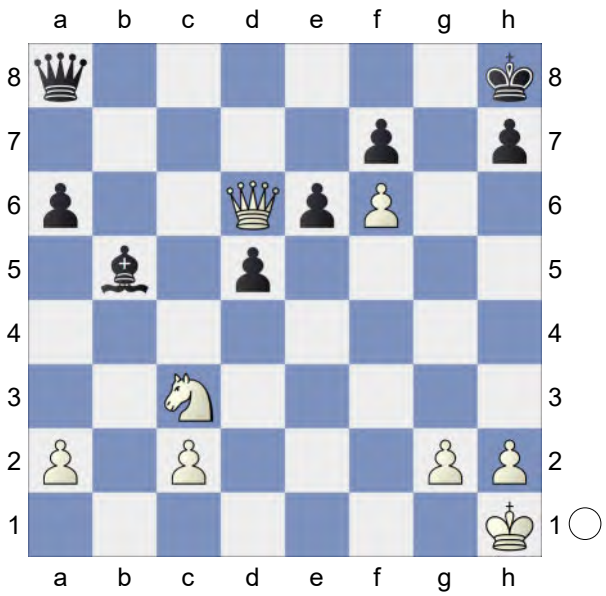
95 **C11**
□ **Dominguez Perez,L.** **2738**
■ **Aronian,L.** **2737**
Saint Louis Rapid 2025 (4.2) 12.08.2025
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Qb6 9.Qd2 Qxb2 10.Rb1 Qa3 11.Bb5! Nxd4 12.Bxd4 a6 13.Bxd7+ Bxd7** White has an edge. **14.Rb3 Qe7**
[14...Qa5? 15.Bb6+- *(15.Rxb7 Bb4∓)*]
15.Rxb7 Qh4+ 16.Bf2 Qd8 17.Bb6 Qc8 18.Rc7 Qd8! 19.Qd4! Wards off Bc5 **19...Ba3 20.f5 0-0?** 2.82/22
[20...Rc8!= 0.18/18 and Black is okay. 21.Rc6 Qe7 22.Rxc8+ Bxc8]
21.f6!+- gxf6 2.85/22
[21...Rc8 1.85/20 is a better defense. 22.Ra7 Discovered Attack Qe8]
22.exf6? 0.01/19
[22.0-0!+- 2.85/22]
22...Kh8!= 23.0-0 Rc8 24.Qf4N -1.15/21
[24.Qe5!= 0.01/21 remains equal. Rg8 25.Rf3 Rxc7 26.Bxc7 Qf8 27.Rh3 Rg6 28.Ne2 Qc5+ 29.Qd4 Bb5 30.Rc3 Bc4 31.Bb6 Qxd4+ 32.Bxd4 Bd6 33.Re3 h5 34.a4 Kh7 35.g3 h4 36.Kf2 Bxe2 37.Rxe2 hxg3+ 38.hxg3 Bxg3+ 39.Kf3 0-1 Pichot,A (2637)-Grischuk,A (2745) MrDodgy Online Inv Finals 3rd blitz 2022 (2.2) Bd6 40.Ke3 Rg3+ 41.Kd2 Kg6 42.c3 Bf4+ 43.Kc2 Rg5 44.Kb3 e5 45.Bb6 Rg3 46.Bc7 Kxf6 47.Rf2 Ke6 48.Kb4 f5 49.Re2 Rg7 50.Bb6 e4 51.a5 Be5 52.c4 d4 53.c5 d3 54.Rd2 0-1 Neumann,J (2637)-Ernst,H (2745) EU-ch 23rd Vrnjacka Banja 2023 (2.2)]
24...Rg8∓ 25.Kh1 -1.04/21
[25.Rb1∓ -0.64/19 should be considered.]
25...Rxc7 26.Bxc7 Qf8 -0.45/18
[26...Qa8∓ -0.97/20 Strongly threatening ...d4!. 27.Qd4 Qb7]
27.Rb1 -1.58/22
[27.Be5∓ -0.45/18]
27...Qa8? 1.28/24
[27...Qc5∓ -1.58/22 and life is bright. 28.Be5 Bc6]
28.Rb8!↑ White has strong initiative. White has more active pieces. **28...Rxb8 29.Bxb8 Bf8**



Dodges Qh6 **30.Bd6! Bxd6 31.Qxd6** Endgame KQB-KQN **31...Bb5** 4.38/22
[31...Qc8± 0.83/20]

(Diagram)

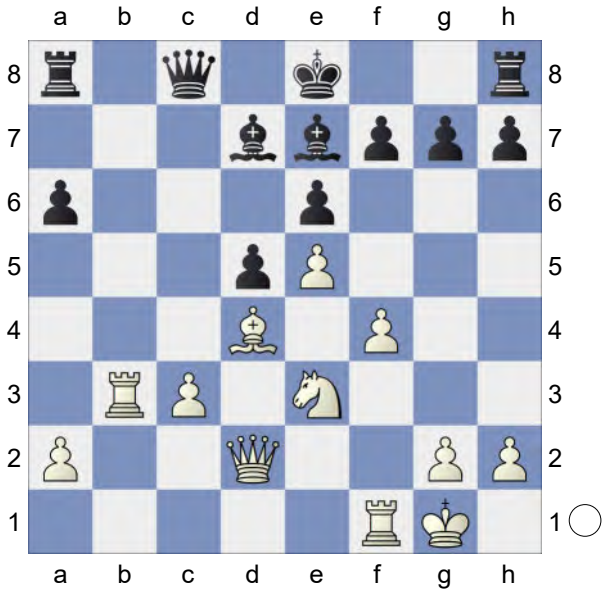


32.h4? 0.59/20
[32.Nxb5!+- 4.38/22 axb5 33.Qd7]
32...Qg8 1.40/23
[32...Bc4!± 0.59/20]
33.Nd1 0.01/22
[33.Nxb5± 1.40/23 axb5 34.h5]
33...h6 0.39/24
[33...h5= 0.01/22]
34.Ne3± Qg6 35.Qe5 0.01/26
[35.Qf4!± 0.40/24]
35...h5 The position is equal. **36.Kh2 Kh7 37.a3 Qh6 38.Kg3 Qg6+ 39.Kf3 Ba4 40.c3 Bd1+** Deflection **41.Kf2**
[41.Kf4 seems wilder. Be2 42.Qg5 Qe4+ 43.Kg3]
41...Bg4 42.Kg1 Bf3 43.Kh2 Be4 44.Kg1 Bf3 45.Kh2 Be4 46.Kg1 Bf3 47.Kf2 Be4 48.Qf4 Qh6 49.Qe5 Qg6 50.Qf4 Qh6 51.Qe5 c4 would now be deadly. Weighted Error Value: White=0.39/Black=0.34 **51...Qg6**
½-½

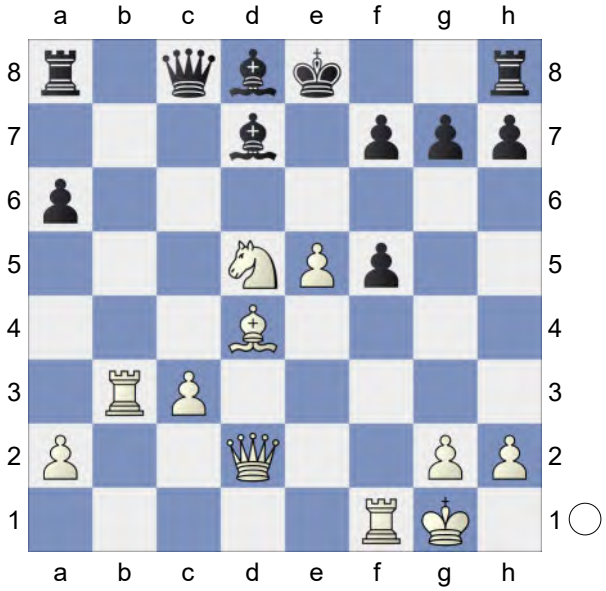
96 **C11**
□ **Vachier Lagrave,M.** **2736**
■ **Aronian,L.** **2737**
12th Sinquefield Cup (3.4) 20.08.2025
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Qb6 9.Qd2 Qxb2 10.Rb1 Qa3 11.Bb5 Nxd4 12.Bxd4 a6! 13.Bxd7+ Bxd7** White is slightly better. **14.Rb3 Qe7**
[14...Qa5? 15.Bb6+- *(15.Rxb7 Bb4∓)*]
15.Rxb7 Qd8 16.0-0 Qc8 17.Rb3 0.23/20
[17.Rfb1± 0.60/24 might be stronger. Bc5 18.f5 Bb5 19.Nxb5 axb5 20.R7xb5 Bxd4+ 21.Qxd4 0-0 22.R1b2 Qa6 23.h3 Qa7 24.c3 h5 25.Rb7 Qxd4+ 26.cxd4 h4 27.Re7 exf5 28.Rbb7 Rxa2 29.e6 g6 30.Rbd7 Ra6 31.exf7+ ½-½ Aryan,C (2610)-Ioannidis,E (2459) 153/115 Novi Sad 2022]
17...Qc4N 1.35/20
[17...Bc5= 0.23/20 remains equal. 18.f5 *(18.Ne2 Bb5 19.Rc3 Bc4 20.Bxc5 Qxc5+ 21.Nd4 0-0 22.Rf2 Qb6 23.h3 f5 24.a3 g6 25.g4 Ra7 26.Kh2 Raf7 27.Rg3 fxg4 28.hxg4 Re8 29.Kh3 Bb5 30.Rb3 Qc5 31.Kg3 Qf8 32.Rc3 Qg7* ½-½ Gusain,H (2528)-Harshavardhan, G (2417) IND-chT 44th 2025 (7.4)*)* 18...Bxd4+ *(18...exf5 19.Nxd5 0-0 20.Nf6+ Kh8 21.Rh3 Bxd4+ 22.Kh1* 1-0 Golubev,M (2570)-Zakharov,V (2355) Moscow op 1995 (1)*)* 19.Qxd4 Qc4 20.Qxc4 dxc4 21.Rb6 exf5 22.Nd5 0-0 4 Chapter-Games Chapter 17 Game]

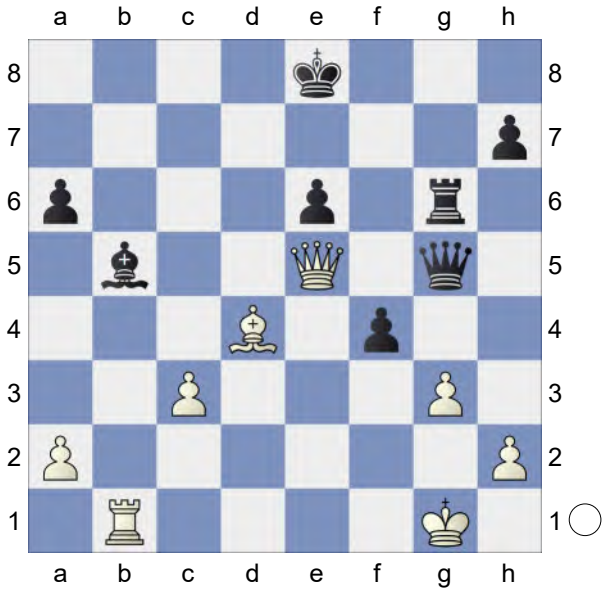
18.Nd1!± Bc5 1.20/22
[⌓18...Qc7 0.81/20]
19.c3! Be7 20.Ne3 Qc8



21.f5! Deflection **21...exf5 22.Nxd5 Bd8**



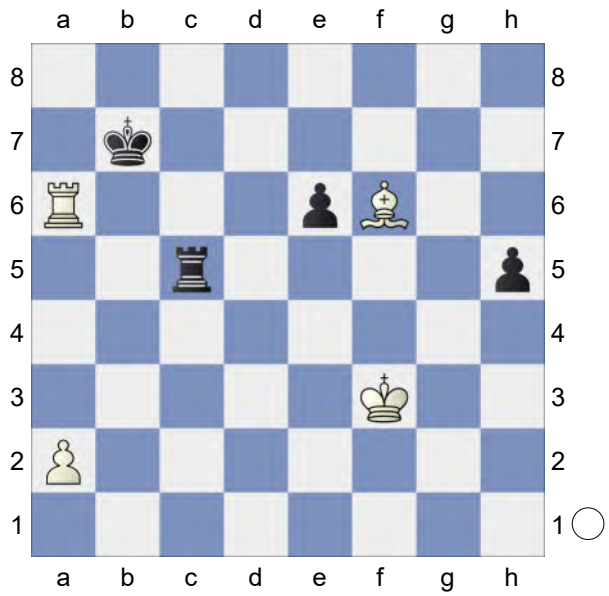
Black is weak on the dark squares **23.e6** 0.01/21 White has more active pieces.
23...fxe6 24.Bxg7 Rg8 25.Nf6+ 0.04/20
[25.Bd4!± 0.45/22]
25...Bxf6= 26.Bxf6 Bc6⇄ Black puts up resistance **27.g3 Rg6** 0.45/24
[27...Kf7= 0.01/22 28.Bd4 Qc7]
28.Be5± Bb5 29.Re1 0.33/22
[29.Rfb1 0.70/22]
29...Qc5+ 0.76/24
[29...Qc4± 0.33/22]
30.Bd4
[30.Qd4 simplifies Qd5 31.Qxd5 exd5 32.Bf4+]
30...Rd8! 31.Qf4! Qd5 and ...Bc6 would now be decisive **32.Re5** The board is on fire. **32...Qc4 33.Rb2** 0.10/23
[33.Rb4± 0.50/24 Qd3 34.Re1]
33...Rd5 1.04/23
[33...Rg4= 0.10/23 34.Qf2 *(34.Qxf5 Rdxd4 35.Rxe6+ Kd8=)* 34...Re4 35.Rxe4 *(35.Qxf5? Rxe5 36.Qb1 Rxd4-+)* 35...fxe4]
34.Rxd5 0.54/26
[34.Qxf5? Rxe5 35.Qb1 Rf6-+]
[34.h3!± 1.04/23]
34...Qxd5 35.Qb8+! Qd8? 4.49/26
[Black should play 35...Kf7± 0.62/24]
36.Qe5!+- Qg5 37.Rb1 Repels Qc1+
37...f4



38.Qb8+! Ke7? 7.40/25
[38...Qd8 3.62/23 39.Qxf4 Qg5]
39.Qc7+ Ke8 40.Qb8+? -0.01/23
[40.Qxh7 fxg3 41.h3 Qf5 42.Qh8+

Kd7 43.Qh7+ Kc6=]
[40.c4+- 6.35/24]
40...Ke7!= 41.Qc7+? -0.01/16
[41.c4+- 7.22/24]
41...Ke8 42.c4
[42.Qxh7 Qf5 43.Qh8+ Kd7=]
42...fxg3 43.Qc8+
[43.cxb5 gxh2+ 44.Kf2 Qd2+ *(44...axb5 45.Qc6+ Kf7 46.Qc7+ Ke8 47.Qc8+ Kf7 48.Qb7+ Kf8 49.Qb8+ Ke7 50.Qc7+ Ke8=)* 45.Kf3 Qd3+ *(45...Qxd4? 46.Qc6+ Ke7 47.Qc7+ Kf6 48.a4-+)* 46.Kf2 Qxd4+ *(46...Qxb1 47.Qc8+ Ke7 48.Qc7+ Ke8 49.Qc8+ Ke7 50.Qc7+ Ke8=)* 47.Ke2 Rg2+ *(47...Qe4+ 48.Kd2 Rg2+* Skewer *49.Kc3 Rc2+* Skewer *50.Kb3 Rxc7 51.Rc1 Qd3+ 52.Kb4 Rxc1 53.bxa6 Rb1+ 54.Kc5 Qd5#)* 48.Kf3 Qf2+ *(48...Rxa2? 49.Qc8+ Kf7 50.Qc7+ Kf6 51.Qf4+ Qxf4+ 52.Kxf4-+)* 49.Ke4 Rg4+ *(49...Qxa2 50.Qc8+ Ke7 51.Qc7+ Ke8 52.Qc8+ Ke7 53.Qc7+ Kf6 54.Rf1+ Rf2 55.Qe5+ Kf7 56.Qh5+ Kg7 57.Qg5+ Kf7 58.Qh5+ Kg8 59.Qg5+ Kf7 60.Qh5+=)*]
43...Qd8 44.Qxd8+ Kxd8 45.cxb5 gxh2+ 46.Kxh2 axb5 47.Rxb5+- Endgame KRB-KR **47...Rg4 48.Bb2 Kc7 49.Kh3 Re4 50.Kg3 Kc6 51.Ra5 h5 52.Kf3**
[52.Rxh5 Rb4 53.Rh2 Kd5 54.Rd2+ Ke4 55.Re2+ Kd3]
52...Rc4 53.Bf6 1.62/18
[Not 53.Rxh5 Rc2±]
[⌓53.a3 3.19/19]
53...Rc5 54.Ra6+ 1.20/19
[54.Rxc5++- 2.12/26 Kxc5 55.Ke4]
54...Kb7±

(Diagram)



55.Rxe6 0.28/20
[55.Ra4!± 1.24/29]
55...Ra5= 56.Bd4 and Re2 would now be decisive **56...Rxa2 57.Rb6+ Kc7 58.Ke4 Ra5 59.Rh6 Kb7 60.Kd3 Ra6 61.Rxh5 Kc6 62.Ke4 Ra4 63.Rh6+ Kb5 64.Kd5 Rb4 65.Rh8 Rb3 66.Ra8 Rb4 67.Bc3** White wants to mate with Rb8+. **67...Rb3 68.Rb8+ Ka4 69.Rc8 Kb5 70.Rc6 Ka4 71.Kc4 Rb4+! 72.Kd3 Kb5 73.Bxb4** -0.51/36
[Better is 73.Rc8± 0.33/28 Rh4 74.Bd4]
Black defended with fortune. Weighted Error Value: White=0.53/Black=0.26 (precise) **73...Kxc6**
½-½

97 **C11**
□ **Vachier Lagrave,M.** **2736**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2776**
Esports World Cup B 2025 blitz (2.1)
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6**

7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Qb6 9.Qd2 Qxb2 10.Rb1 Qa3 11.Bb5! Nxd4 12.Bxd4 a6 13.Bxd7+ Bxd7 White is slightly better. **14.Rb3 Qe7**

[14...Qa5? 15.Bb6+- *(15.Rxb7 Bb4∓)*]

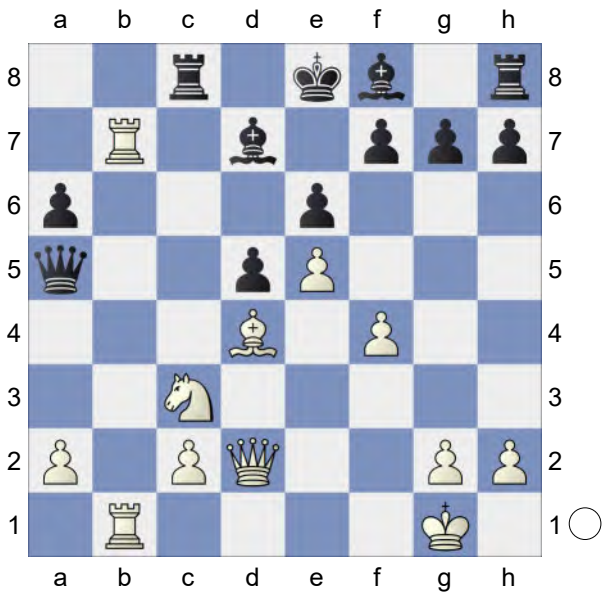
15.Rxb7 Rc8 16.0-0 Rfb1 would now be deadly. **16...Qd8 17.Rfb1** 0.07/19

[17.f5!± 0.91/20]

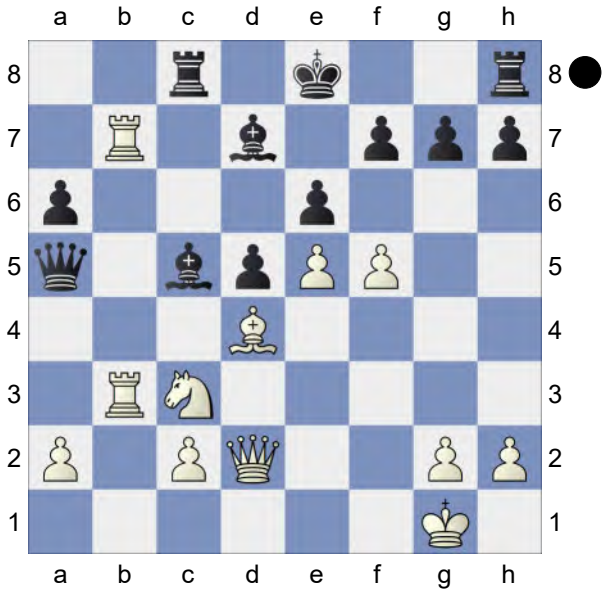
[17.Nd1 Bc5 18.Ne3 Bc6 19.Rbb1 Bb5 20.Rf3 Qb6 21.c3 Bxd4 22.cxd4 Qc7 23.Rg3 0-0 24.f5 Kh8 25.f6 g6 26.Nc4 g5 27.Nd6 Qc2 28.Qxc2 Rxc2 29.Rxg5 Rc7 30.Rg7 h6 31.Rb3 1-0 Savchenko,B (2481)-Vijay,S (2025) Goa op Taleigao 2025 (1)]

17...Qa5N 1.74/19

[17...Bc5!= 0.07/19 and Black stays safe. 18.Ne2 *(18.Bxc5 Rxc5 19.f5 Qa5 20.R1b4 exf5 21.Qd4 Bc8 22.e6 0-0 23.exf7+ Rxf7 24.Rxf7 Kxf7 25.h3 Rc7 26.Nxd5 Rd7 27.Qc3 Rxd5 28.Kh2 Qc5 29.Rc4 Qd6+* 0-1 5.♗e2 0-0-0 6.♗e3_54305 (2636)-C 58/01 (2553) 81/64 Las Vegas 2001*)* 18...0-0 19.Bxc5 *(19.c3 Bb5 20.Bxc5 Rxc5 21.Nd4 Qa5 22.Rb4 Qa3 23.Rb3 Qa4 24.Rb4 Qa3 25.Rb3 Qa4 26.f5 Qc4 27.h3 Qf1+ 28.Kh2 Bc4 29.Rb1 Qd3 30.Qg5 exf5 31.Ne6 g6 32.Qf6* 1-0 Palacios,A (2339)-Line C4 (1998) EU-chT (Men) 16th 2007 (1)*)* 19...Rxc5 20.Nd4 Ba4 21.f5 exf5 22.e6 Rc7 23.exf7+ Rfxf7 24.Ne6 Rxb7 25.Rxb7 Qc8 26.Rb6 Bc6 27.Nd4 Bd7 28.Qb4 Qe8 29.Rb8 Bc8 30.h3 Qe3+ 31.Kh1 Rf8 32.Nc6 Qc1+ 1-0 Takacs,L (2188)-Rucek,K (2172) SVK-chT2B 2425 2024 (4.1)]



18.f5?? -2.18/19 **Bc5-+ 19.R1b3**



exf5? -0.60/18

[19...Bc6!-+ -2.38/21 20.fxe6 *(20.Rb8? 0-0∓)* 20...Bxb7 *(20...Bxd4+ 21.Qxd4 Bxb7 22.exf7+ Kf8 23.e6=)* 21.exf7+ Kxf7 *(21...Kf8 22.e6∓)* 22.Rxb7+ Ke8]

20.h4? -3.69/22

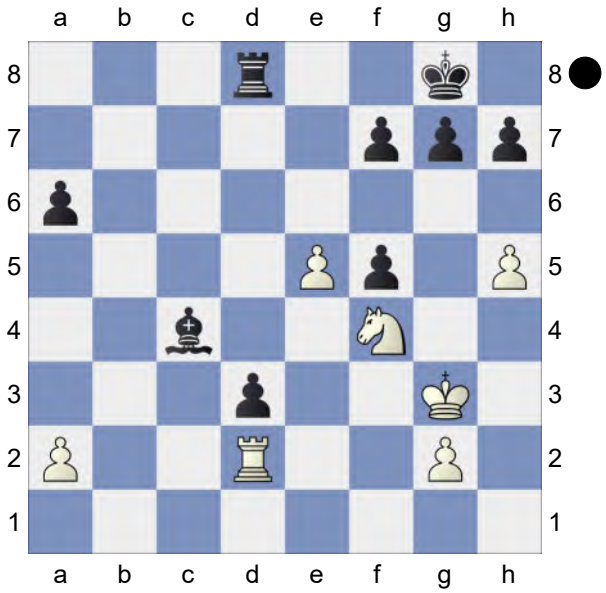
[White must play 20.Bxc5!∓ -0.60/18 Qxc5+ 21.Kh1]

20...Be6 21.Kh2 -4.42/21

[21.Qe3 -3.08/21 0-0 22.Nb5]

21...0-0 22.h5 Bxd4 23.Qxd4 Rc4

24.Qb6 Qxb6 25.R7xb6 d4 26.Ne2 -5.92/20
[26.Nd1 -3.85/20 might work better.]
26...Rxc2 Black is clearly winning.
27.Rb2 Rxb2 28.Rxb2 d3 29.Nf4 Bc4 And now ...Rd8 would win.
[Less strong is 29...Rd8 30.Nxd3 Bc4 31.Nc5∓]
30.Kg3 Rd8 31.Rd2

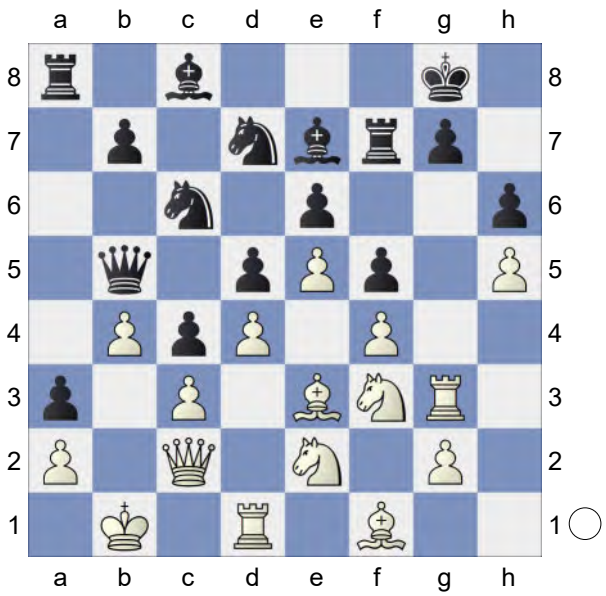


Weighted Error Value: White=1.07/Black=0.36 **31...Bxa2!**
0-1

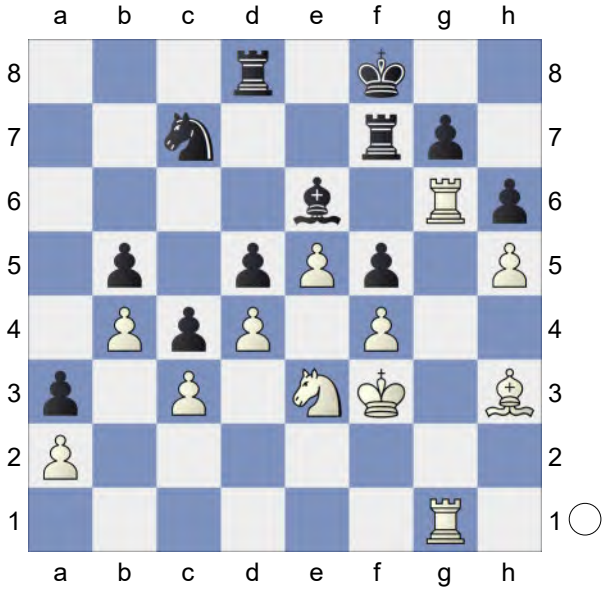
98 **C11**
□ **Vachier Lagrave,M.** **2736**
■ **Bacrot,E.** **2635**
FIDE Grand Swiss 2025 (7.22) 11.09.25
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.Ne2 Qb6 9.Qc1 Be7 10.c3** White is slightly better. **10...f6 11.h4 0-0 12.h5 h6 13.Rh3 a5N**
[13...Qa5 14.Kf2 *(14.Bd2 Qd8 15.Qc2 Rf7 16.0-0-0 b5 17.g4 c4 18.Rg3 b4 19.g5 bxc3 20.Bxc3 fxg5 21.fxg5 hxg5 22.Bh3 Nf8 23.Rdg1 Nh7 24.Qg6 Nf8 25.Qc2 Nh7 26.h6 Rb8 27.Bg4 Qf8 28.Qg6 Bb4* 1-0 Santos Latasa,J (2650)-Bluebaum,M (2668) Bundesliga 2324 2023 (7.3) *)* 14...cxd4 15.cxd4 fxe5 16.fxe5 Ndxe5 17.dxe5 Nxe5 18.Kg1 Ng4 19.Rg3 e5 20.Rxg4 Bxg4 21.Nxe5 Bxh5 22.Nf4 Rac8 23.Qe1 Qxe1 24.Rxe1 Bb4 25.Rb1 d4 26.Bc1 Bf7 27.Nxf7 Rxf7 28.g3 0-1 Aronian,L (2781)-Bluebaum,M (2670) chess24.com (Internet-rapid) 2021]
[13...Rf7 14.a3 *(14.Qc2 cxd4 15.Bxd4 Qc7 16.exf6 Nxd4 17.Nexd4 Rxf6 18.f5 Nc5 19.Nh4 Rf7 20.Ndf3 e5 21.g4 e4 22.Nd4 Qf4 23.Ng6 Qxg4 24.Qh2 Nd3+ 25.Bxd3 exd3 26.Re3 d2+ 27.Qxd2 Bh4+ 28.Nxh4 Qxh4+* ½-½ Ivic,V (2599)-Di Berardino,D (2472) Olympiad-45 Budapest 2024 (5.13)*)* 14...cxd4 15.cxd4 Na5 16.Qc2 Nc4 17.Bc1 Qa5+ 18.Kd1 fxe5 19.fxe5 Ndb6 20.b3 Bd7 21.Qc3 Qxc3 22.Nxc3 Na5 23.Kc2 Rc8 24.Kb2 Na8 25.Bd3 b5 26.Ne2 Be8 27.Bd2 Nc6 28.Rg3 1-0 Gurel,E (2624)-Vaishali,R (2476) Tata Steel-B 87th 2025 (12)]
14.Rg3 Rf7 15.Qc2 a4! 16.0-0-0 0.07/21
[16.Rd1± 0.48/20]
16...a3= Hoping for ...axb2+. **17.b3 c4 18.b4 f5! 19.Kb1** -0.19/20
[⌓19.Bd2 0.19/20]
19...Qb5 0.90/20
[19...Bxb4!= -0.19/20 remains equal. 20.cxb4 Nxb4]

(Diagram)



20.Ka1!± Qa4 21.Ne1 0.41/21
[21.Qxa4± 1.06/19 Rxa4 22.Nc1]
21...Nb6± 22.Bc1 -0.01/20
[22.Qxa4!± 0.45/20 might be stronger. Nxa4 23.Rh3]
22...Bh4 0.54/22
[22...Qa6!= -0.01/20]
23.Qxa4 Rxa4 0.85/22
[23...Nxa4± 0.42/23 24.Rh3 Bd8]
24.Rh3 Bxe1 25.Rxe1 Bd7 1.04/21
[25...Ra8± 0.63/21]
26.Ng1± Ne7 27.Nf3 Na8 28.Be2 Ra6 29.Rg1 Nc7 30.Bd2 Ba4 31.Kb1 Prevents Bc2+ **31...Bd7 32.Be1 Ra8 33.Bh4** Strongly threatening Bxe7. A mistake that costs the game. **33...Ba4?** 3.52/18
[33...Nc8± 0.73/19]
34.Bxe7+- Rxe7
[Of course not 34...Nb5 35.Nh4 Rxe7 36.g4+-]
35.Nh4 Rf7 36.Rf1 Kf8 37.g4 Ke7 4.21/20
[⌓37...fxg4 2.74/18 38.Bxg4 Ke8]
38.gxf5 exf5 39.Ng2 Bd7 40.Ne3 Be6 41.Rg3 Kf8 42.Rg6 White is clearly winning. **42...Rd8 43.Rfg1 Re7 44.Kc1 b5** 6.54/22
[⌓44...Rde8 4.22/19 45.Kd2 Rd8]
45.Bf1 Rf7 46.Bh3 Re8 47.Kd2 Rd8 Black is weak on the dark squares **48.Ke2 Re8 49.Kf3 Rd8** 9.02/21
[⌓49...Ree7 4.75/18 50.Kf2 Re8]

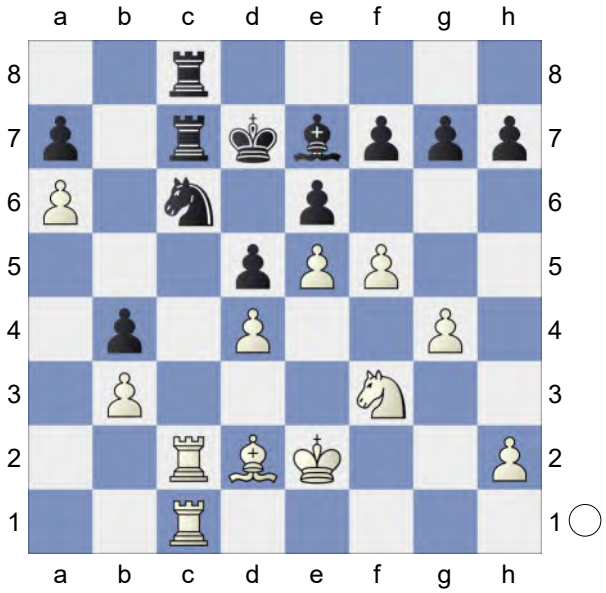


50.Rxe6! Nxe6 51.Rg6 Nc7 52.Nxf5 Rb8 53.Rc6 Na8 54.Rc5 Ra7 55.Ne3 Nb6 56.Rxb5
[56.Nxd5 Na4 57.Rc8+ *(57.Rc6 Rd8+-)* 57...Rxc8 58.Bxc8 Nb2=]
56...Rbb7 57.Nxd5 Na4 58.Rxb7 Rxb7 59.Bc8 Ra7 Weighted Error Value: White=0.13 (very precise) / Black=0.82 **60.Ke4**
1-0

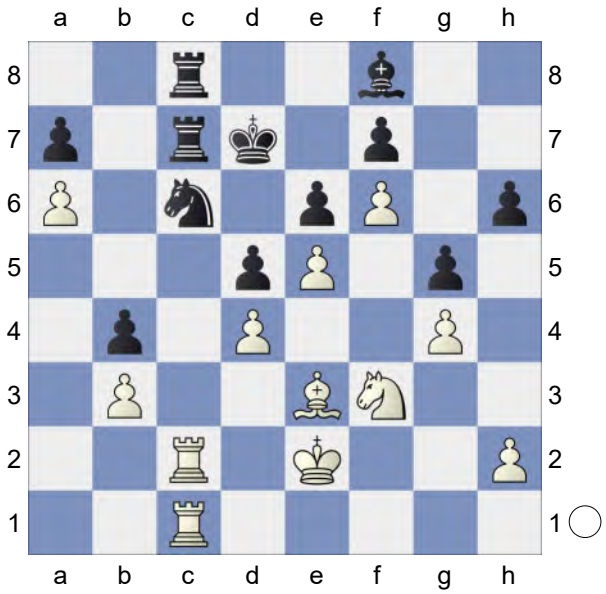
99 **C11**
□ **Anand,Viswanathan** **2735**
■ **Leko,Peter** **2630**
Dortmund SuperGM 24th (2) 06.07.1996
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 b5 8.a3 cxd4 9.Nxd4 Nxd4**

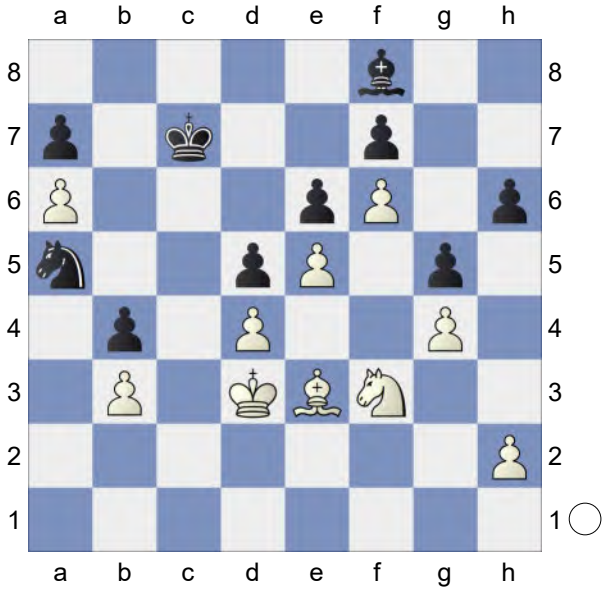
10.cxd4 b4 11.a4 Qa5 12.Bd2 Be7 White is slightly better. **13.Nf3 0-0 14.Bb5 Nb6N 15.b3!** Inhibits Nc4. **15...Ba6 16.Bxa6 Qxa6 17.a5** 0.16/23
[17.Qe2± 0.55/24 Qb7 18.a5]
17...Nd7 0.59/22
[17...Nc4= 0.16/23 feels stronger.]
18.Qe2± Nb8 19.Kf2 Qxe2+ 20.Kxe2 Rhc1 is the strong threat. **20...Nc6 21.Rhc1 Rfc8 22.Ra2** And now Rac2 would win. **22...Rc7 23.Rac2↑** White has good play. **23...Rac8 24.a6 Kf8** 1.20/26
[24...Bd8± 0.36/23]
25.g4 0.67/27
[25.Kd3!± 1.20/26]
25...Ke8 26.f5 Kd7



27.Bf4! g5 1.31/24 **28.Be3±** Hoping for f6.
[28.Bxg5? perishes. Bxg5 29.fxe6+ fxe6-+]
28...h6 2.34/22
[28...exf5± 1.24/22 29.gxf5 *(29.Nxg5? too greedy. Nxd4+* Discovered Attack *30.Bxd4 Rxc2+-+)* 29...g4]
29.f6+- Bf8
(Diagram)



30.Kd3! White is much more active.
30...Na5? 5.23/27 A mistake that costs the game.
[30...Ke8± 1.44/23 is more resistant. 31.h4 gxh4]
31.Rxc7+ Rxc7 32.Rxc7+ Kxc7

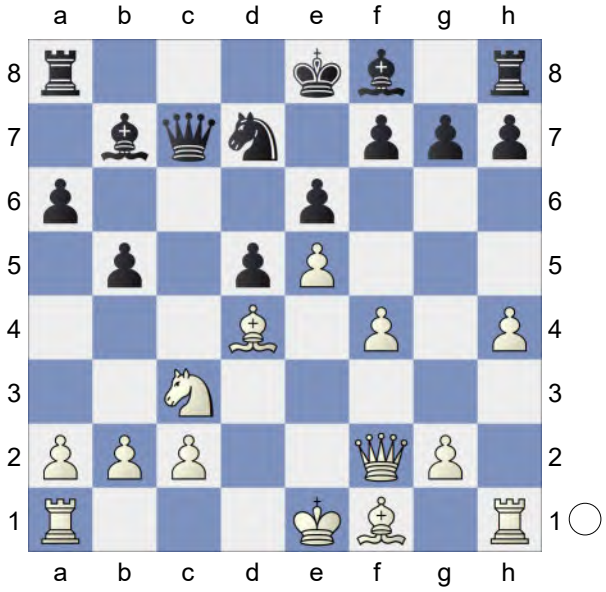


33.Nxg5! hxg5 34.Bxg5 Nxb3 35.h4 Na1? 5.94/24
[35...Na5 3.49/22 is a better defense. 36.h5 b3]
36.Bc1 White is clearly winning.
36...Nb3 37.Be3 Na5 38.g5 Nc4 Strongly threatening ...b3. **39.Bc1**

Weighted Error Value: White=0.06 (flawless) /Black=0.44
1-0

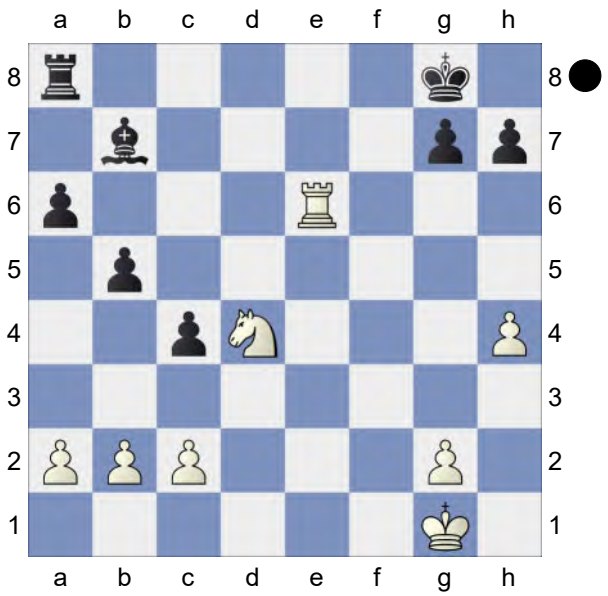
100 **C11**
□ **Niemann,Hans Moke** **2733**
■ **Aronian,Levon** **2738**
ch-USA 2024 Saint Louis USA (6.3)
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.Qd2 b5 9.h4 Bb7 10.Qf2** -0.15/16
[10.Ne2± 0.31/16]
[10.h5 Be7 11.dxc5 Nxc5 12.Bd3 Rc8 13.Bxc5 Bxc5 14.f5 Nb4 15.Qf4 Nxd3+ 16.cxd3 exf5 17.Qxf5 Rc7 18.d4 Bc8 19.Qf4 Be7 20.0-0 h6 21.Rac1 Be6 22.Ne2 0-0 23.Qg3 Rc4 24.b3 Rxc1 ½-½ 10.♔b1 b5 11. c5_13795_15163 (2780)-10.dc5 ♗c5 11. ♗d2_13770 (2635) CCOL3 prel2-01 1955]
10...cxd4N 0.52/18
[10...Qa5!= -0.15/16 11.Bd3 b4 12.Nd1 cxd4 13.Nxd4 Nxd4 14.Bxd4 Bc5 15.0-0 Bxd4 16.Qxd4 Qc5 17.c3 bxc3 18.bxc3 0-0 19.Ne3 Rfc8 20.Rfc1 a5 21.Rab1 Ba6 22.Bc2 Qc7 23.h5 h6 24.Ng4 Kh8 25.Ba4 Nc5 ½-½ Vidit,S (2719)-Bluebaum,M (2672) FIDE World Cup 2023 (3.5)]
[10...Qb6 11.Rh3 Qa5 12.h5 Be7 13.Bd2 Qc7 14.Ne2 0-0 15.0-0-0 cxd4 16.Nexd4 b4 17.Kb1 a5 18.Nxc6 Bxc6 19.f5 exf5 20.Qg3 Kh8 21.Nd4 Bc5 22.Nxf5 Qxe5 23.Qg4 Rg8 24.Bd3 Rae8 25.Qh4 0-1 Salem,A (2630)-Mendonca,L (2608) 86th Tata Steel Challengers 2024 (12.3)]
11.Nxd4± Nxd4 White is slightly better.
12.Bxd4 Qc7 0.76/18
[12...b4± 0.40/19 is more appropriate. 13.Na4 Qa5]



13.Bd3!± Bc5 14.Ne2! White is more active. **14...f6! 15.0-0 0-0! 16.Qe3 fxe5 17.fxe5 Rxf1+ 18.Rxf1 Bxd4 19.Nxd4** and Qf4 should not be overlooked **19...Qxe5 20.Qxe5** Remove Defender **20...Nxe5 21.Re1 Nc4 22.Bxc4 dxc4** The position is equal. **23.Rxe6±** Endgame

(Diagram)

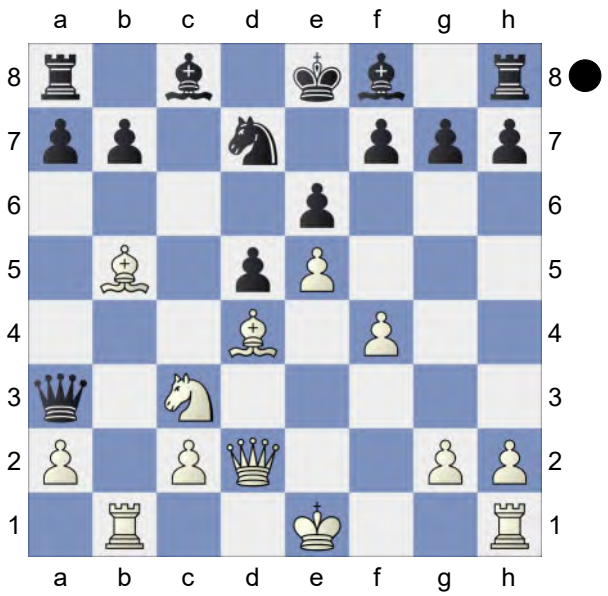


KRB-KRN **23...c3! 24.b4**
[24.bxc3 Bd5]
24...Rd8 Inhibits Rd6. **25.Nb3 Bd5 26.Re3 Bxb3 27.axb3=** KR-KR **27...Rd4 28.Rxc3 Rxb4 29.Rc8+ Kf7 30.Rc7+ Kf8 31.Rc8+ Ke7 32.Rc7+ Kf8 33.Rc8+ Ke7 34.Rc7+** Weighted Error Value: White=0.08 (flawless) / Black=0.08 (flawless) **34...Kf8**
½-½

101 **C11**
□ **Duda,Jan Krzysztof** **2732**
■ **Aronian,Levon** **2742**
Global Chess League rapid (2.1) 23.6.23
[Kitty Kat]

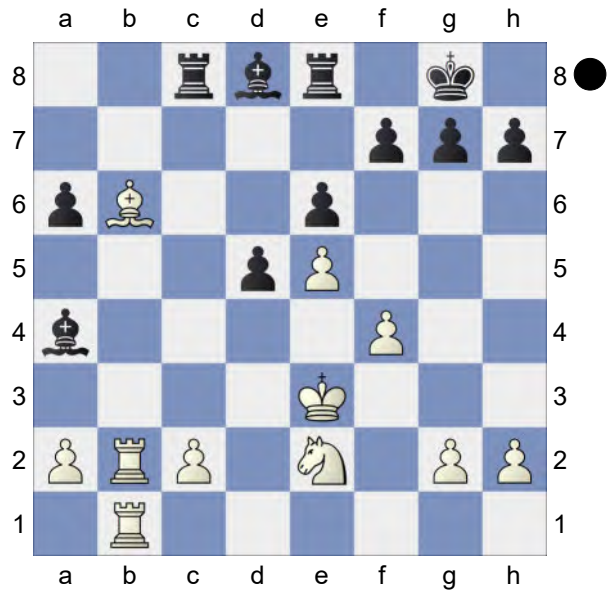
C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Qb6 9.Qd2 Qxb2 10.Rb1 Qa3 11.Bb5 Nxd4 12.Bxd4**

(Diagram)



a6! 13.Bxd7+ 13.a5 is setting a new trend. 13.a5 setzt einen neuen Trend.
[13.Rb3!? Qe7□ 14.Bxd7+ Qxd7 15.Ne2=]
13...Bxd7 White has an edge. **14.Rb3 Qe7**
[14...Qa5? 15.Bb6+- *(15.Rxb7 Bb4∓)*]
15.Rxb7 Qh4+ 16.Qf2! Qxf2+ 17.Kxf2 Be7! 18.Rhb1 and Rb8+ would now be decisive **18...Bd8 19.Ke3** -0.01/20 White is much more active.
[19.Rb8!± 0.70/22 Rxb8 20.Rxb8 0-0 21.Rb7 Bc6 22.Ra7 Ba5 23.Rxa6 Bxc3 24.Bxc3 Rc8 25.Ke1 *(25.Ke3 d4+ 26.Bxd4 Bxg2 27.c3 Ra8 28.Rxa8+ Bxa8 29.Bc5 f5 30.Kd4 Kf7 31.a4 Ke8 32.Ba3 h5 33.Kc5 Kd7 34.c4 Be4 35.a5 g6 36.a6 Bf3 37.Bb4 Be4 38.Kb6 Bf3 39.Be1 Be4* ½-½ Macovei,A (2477)-Lomasov,S (2559) Pan American Intercollegiate-chT 2025 (6.5)*)* 25...d4 26.Bxd4 Bxg2 27.Kd2 Ra8 28.Ba7 h5 29.c4 Kh7 30.Ra3 h4 31.Bc5 Rc8 32.Ra5 Kg6 33.Kc3 Kf5 34.Bf2 Kxf4 35.Bxh4 ½-½ Dardha,D (2610)-Martinovic,S (2546) Bundesliga 2223

2022 (3.4)]
19...Bc6= Black is weak on the dark squares **20.R7b3N**
[20.Ra7 Rxa7 21.Bxa7 Kd7 22.Ne2 Be7 23.Nd4 Ra8 24.Nxc6 Kxc6 25.Bd4! Bd8 Dodges Rb6+ 26.g4 ½-½ Cheparinov,I (2684)-Movsesian, S (2653) Reykjavik op 2016 (7)]
[20.Rb8 Rxb8 21.Rxb8 0-0 22.Rc8 Bb7 23.Rb8 Bc6 14) Steinitz-Variante-14 | Steinitz mit 5.f4 + 7.Le]
20...0-0N 21.Bc5 Re8 22.Ne2 -0.45/22
[22.g3= 0.21/24]
22...Ba4∓ 23.R3b2 -0.85/22
[23.Rc3= -0.22/22]
23...Rc8∓ 24.Bb6 -2.52/23
[White should try 24.Bd4!∓ -0.59/21]



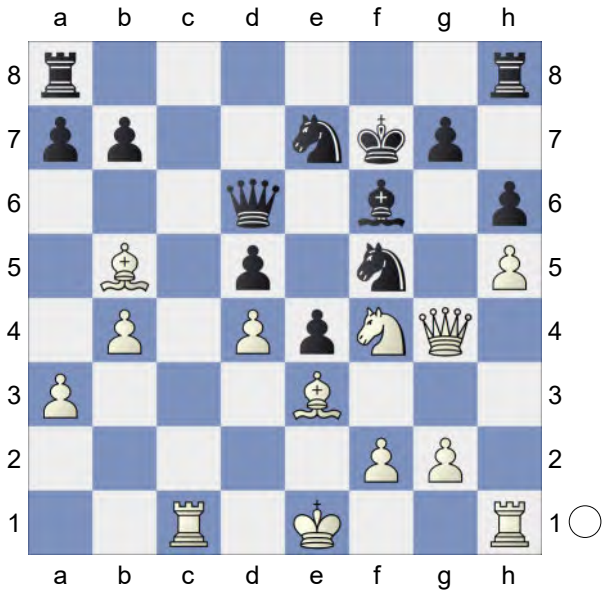
24...Be7!-+
[24...Rxc2 25.Bxd8 Rxb2 *(25...Rxd8 26.Rxc2 Bxc2 27.Rb2=)* 26.Rxb2=]
[24...Bxc2 25.Rc1 Rb8 26.Rcxc2∓]
25.c3 -2.79/22
[⌓25.Bd4 -1.87/23 Bxc2 *(25...Rxc2 26.Rxc2 Bxc2 27.Rb7∓)* 26.Rc1]
25...Bb5? -0.80/20
[25...Ba3-+ -2.79/22 26.Kd2 Bxb2 27.Rxb2 Rc4]
26.Bd4∓ Rc4 27.Nc1 Rec8 28.Nd3 f6 -0.17/17
[28...h5∓ -1.00/18 29.Nb4 g5]
29.Kd2 -0.77/18
[29.g4= -0.17/17]
29...Kf7 -0.31/18
[29...h5∓ -0.77/18]
30.g3 -0.76/17
[30.g4∓ -0.31/18 deserves consideration.]
30...Ra4 31.Nb4 -1.78/18
[31.Ke3∓ -0.52/17]
31...Rc7 -0.61/17
[31...Rc4-+ -1.78/18 32.Nc2 Bd8]
32.Nc2∓ Ba3 0.01/20
[32...Rcc4∓ -0.89/19 33.Ne3 Rxd4+ 34.cxd4 Rxd4+ 35.Ke1 fxe5 *(35...Re4? 36.Kf2-+)* 36.fxe5 Re4]
33.Nxa3= Rxa3 34.Rc2 h5 35.Rb3 Ra4 36.Rcb2 Kg6 37.Rb4 Ra3 38.R4b3 Ra4 39.Rb4 Rxb4 40.Rxb4 Endgame KRB-KRB **40...Kf5 41.a4 Bd7 42.Rb8 Bxa4 43.Rf8 Ke4 44.exf6 gxf6 45.Rxf6 Bd7 46.Rf7 Rb7 47.Re7 a5 48.Bc5 a4 49.Bb4 d4 50.Kc2** -0.57/22
[50.Rh7= 0.03/21]
50...dxc3 -0.05/19
[50...Rc7∓ -0.57/22 51.Kd2 dxc3+ 52.Bxc3 a3]
51.Kxc3 Kd5 52.Rh7 Rc7+ 53.Kb2 Kc4 54.Ka3 Rb7 55.Bd6 Rb3+ 56.Ka2 Bc6 57.Rc7 -1.20/22
[57.Rxh5= -0.18/18 remains equal. Bd5 58.Ka1]
57...Kb5∓ 58.Ka1? -2.94/22
[58.Be7∓ -1.17/22]
58...Rd3-+ 59.Be5 Rd1+ -1.36/22
[59...a3-+ -2.83/20 has better winning chances. aiming for ...Rd2. 60.Kb1 Rf3]
60.Kb2∓ Rd2+ 61.Ka1? -4.23/22
[61.Kc3∓ -1.27/20 is a better defense.

Rxh2 62.Rc8]
61...a3 62.Bc3? -12.35/24
[62.Kb1 -3.21/23]
62...Rxh2 -4.00/22
[⌓62...Rc2 -12.35/24 63.Rxc6 Kxc6]
63.Rc8 -7.38/23
[⌓63.Ra7 -4.00/22 h4 64.gxh4]
Predecessor: **63...Bd5-+** (→ ...Rh1+). Black is clearly winning. **64.Rb8+ Kc4 65.Be5 Kd3** (→ ...a2) **66.Rb4** Weighted Error Value: White=0.31/Black=0.21 (precise) **66...a2** An unexpected result.
½-½

102 **C11**
□ **Vachier Lagrave,Maxime** **2731**
■ **Aronian,Levon** **2729**
Julius Baer Gen Cup D1 W (1.1) 27.9.24
[Kitty Kat]

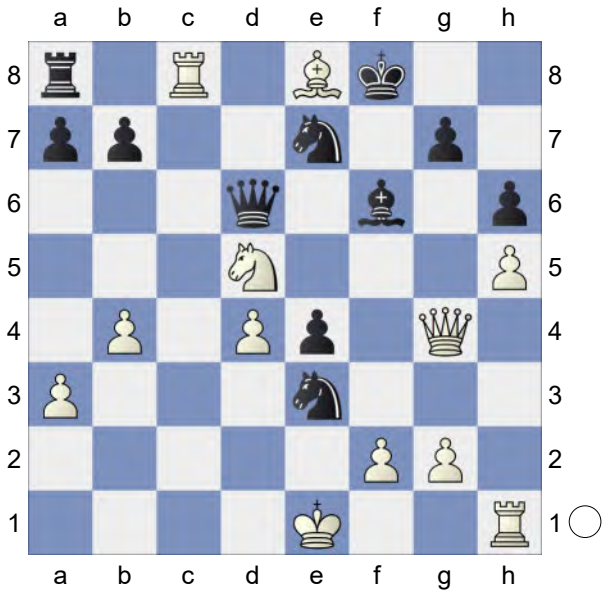
C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.Nf3 Be7** 7...b5 is setting a new trend. 7...b5 setzt einen neuen Trend. **8.h4**
[8.a3 a5 9.h4 b5 10.Nf4 Ba6 11.Bd3 Qb6 12.Be3 Molina,R (2862)-Lunacek,J (2676) Norkom European Masters 2000]
8...Qa5N 0.62/20
[8...cxd4= -0.09/22 9.cxd4 f6 10.Nf4 Ndxe5 11.dxe5 fxe5 12.Nh5 *(12.Nh3 0-0 13.Bg5 Bb4+ 14.Bd2 e4 15.Nd4 Bc5 16.Nb3 Bb6 17.Qh5 e5 18.0-0-0 Bxh3 19.Rxh3 Rxf2 20.Kb1 Qf6 21.Bg5 Qf5 22.g4 Qf8 23.Bb5 Nd4 24.Nxd4 exd4 25.Bc1 Rd8 26.Rhh1 d3 ½-½* Stopa,J (2460)-Kraai,J (2516) 4th Calgary Classic Int 2011 (3) *)* 12...0-0 13.Be2 e4 14.Ng5 h6 15.Nh3 e5 #1 7) Classical 5.Nce2-8.h4]
[8...b6 9.Nf4 h6 10.Bd3 Nf8 11.a3 c4 12.Bc2 Bb7 13.h5 Qc7 14.Be3 0-0-0 15.Qd2 Na5 16.Rd1 Kb8 17.Rh3 Nd7 18.Rg3 Bf8 19.Nh4 Re8 20.Kf1 Qd8 21.Nf3 Bc6 22.Re1 Kb7 23.Kg1 0-1 Mujacic,H (1978)-Stavnjak,L (2163) BIH-chT1 30th 2023 (9.4)]
9.a3!± cxd4N 0.91/21
[Vorgänger: 9...b6 1.60/19 9...Nxd4 0.25 10.Nf4 0.78/20 *(⌓10.Bg5 1.60/19)* 10...Ba6± 11.Bd2 -0.01/19 *(11.Rh3± 0.88/18)* 11...Bxf1= 12.Kxf1 Qb5+ 13.Kg1 c4 1.04/20 *(13...Qxb2= -0.01/22 14.a4 c4)* 14.Rh3 -0.01/20 *(14.Bc1± 1.04/20)* 14...Na5 1.30/22 *(14...Qxb2= -0.01/20 15.a4 0-0-0)* 15.Rb1 0.86/21 *(15.Nh5 1.30/22)* 15...Nb3 1.95/21 ;0-1 Bachmann,A (2629)-Christiansen,J (2558) Chess24 Banter Blitz Cup 2019 (1.12) *(15...h6± 0.86/21* was called for. *)*]
[9...Nxd4± 0.36/21 10.Nexd4 cxd4]
10.b4± White is better. **10...Qb6 11.cxd4**
[11.Nexd4 Ndxe5 *(11...Ncxe5 12.Nxe5 Nxe5 13.Qh5∓)* 12.Nxe5 Nxe5∓]
11...f6 12.Nf4 0.08/23
[12.b5± 0.82/20]
12...fxe5= 13.Nxe6 -0.12/21
[13.dxe5± 0.38/23 Ncxe5 *(13...Ndxe5 14.Nxe5 Nxe5 15.Bb2±)* 14.Nxe5 Nxe5 15.Bb2]
13...Bf6 0.83/21
[13...Nf6!= -0.12/21 14.Nxg7+ Kf8]
14.Be3↑ White is more active. **14...e4 15.Nfg5 Nf8 16.Nf4** 0.19/21 White has more active pieces. The black rooks are passive.
[16.Nc5!± 0.90/20]

16...Ne7= 17.Rc1 h6 18.Ngh3 and Nxd5! would now be decisive
[18.Qh5+ g6∓]
18...Be6 0.71/19
[18...g6= 0.13/18]
19.Be2± Nfg6? 2.61/22
[19...Rd8!± 0.45/18]
20.Nxe6+- Qxe6 21.h5 Nh4 22.Nf4 Qd6 3.83/23
[22...Qd7 1.92/22]
23.Bb5+ Kf7 24.Qg4 Nhf5 4.89/22
[⌓24...Rhc8 3.16/22 25.Rxh4 Bxh4]



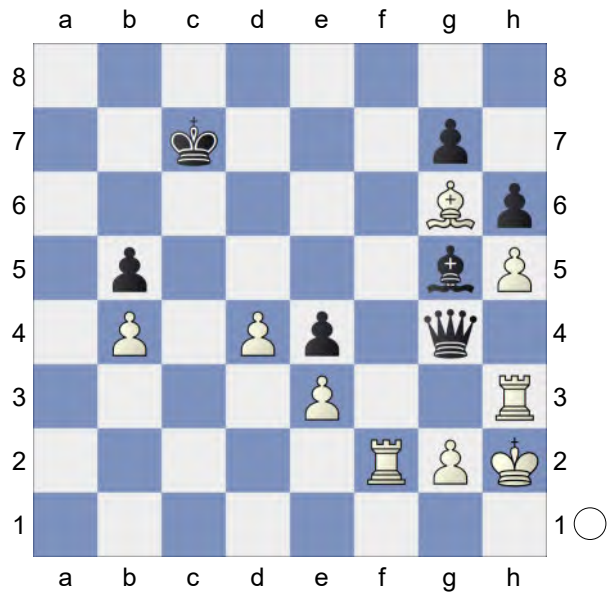
25.Nxd5! Discovered Attack **25...Rhc8**
[25...Nxd5 26.Qxf5]
26.Rxc8 Nxe3? 10.82/23
[26...Rxc8 3.13/21 27.Nxe7 Nxe7 28.Qxe4 Qd5 29.Qxd5+ Nxd5]
27.Be8+
[27.Qxe4 Nxg2+ *(27...Rxc8 28.Nxe3 Qxd4 29.Qxd4±)* 28.Kf1 *(28.Qxg2 Rxc8 29.Ne3 Bxd4=)* 28...Rxc8±]
27...Kf8

(Diagram)

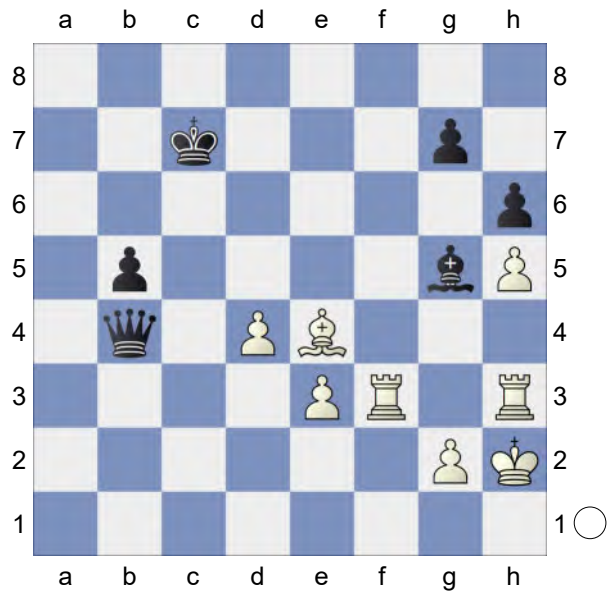


28.Rxa8! Bg6+ would kill now. **28...Nxg4 29.Bg6+** Discovered Attack (Check)
29...Nc8 30.Rxc8+ Bd8 31.Ne3? -0.01/16
[31.Rh4+- 9.43/20]
31...Nxe3= 32.fxe3 Qg3+ 33.Kf1 Ke7 34.Rh3 Qg4 35.Rc1 Kd6 36.Kg1 Bg5 And now ...Qe2 would win. Black has compensation. **37.Kh1 b5 38.Re1 Bh4 39.Ra1 Bf2 40.Kh2 a6 41.Ra2 Bh4** 1.37/24
[41...Be1= -0.01/25]
42.a4 0.01/22
[42.Bf5!± 1.37/24 Qxh5 43.Bxe4]
42...Bg5 0.83/25
[42...Be7= 0.01/22]
43.axb5± axb5 44.Rf2 0.01/26
[44.Rc2!± 0.90/23]
44...Kc7 1.42/25
[44...Kd5= 0.01/26 keeps the balance.]

(Diagram)

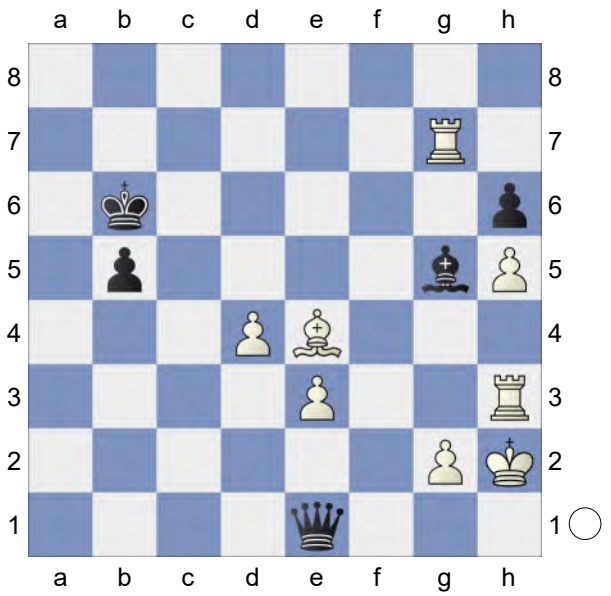


45.Bf5! Deflection **45...Qd1 46.Bxe4 Qe1 47.Rff3** 0.40/23
[Better is 47.Rf7+± 1.47/23 Kd8 48.Rf8+ *(48.Rxg7 Bxe3 49.Rg8+ Kc7=)* 48...Ke7 49.Rff3]
47...Qxb4 1.81/21
[Black should play 47...Be7!± 0.40/23]



48.Rf7+!+- Kb6 49.Rxg7 Qe1? 8.48/27
[49...Qd6+± 1.31/25 50.g3 Qd8]

(Diagram)

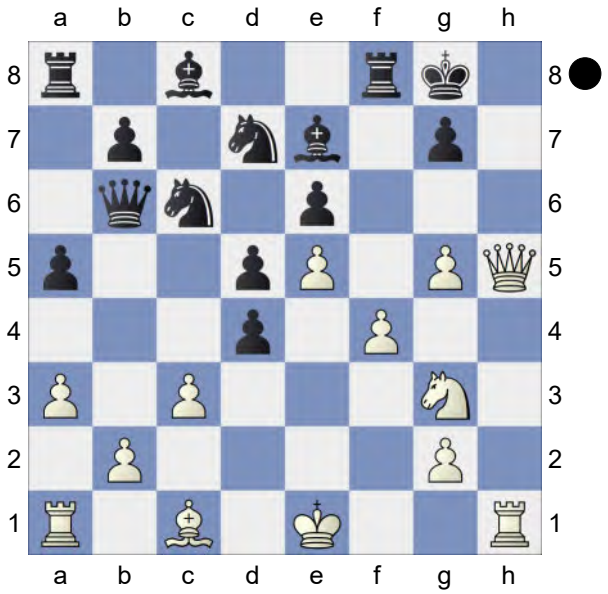


50.Rxg5! hxg5 Weighted Error Value: White=0.38/Black=0.76 **51.h6**
1-0

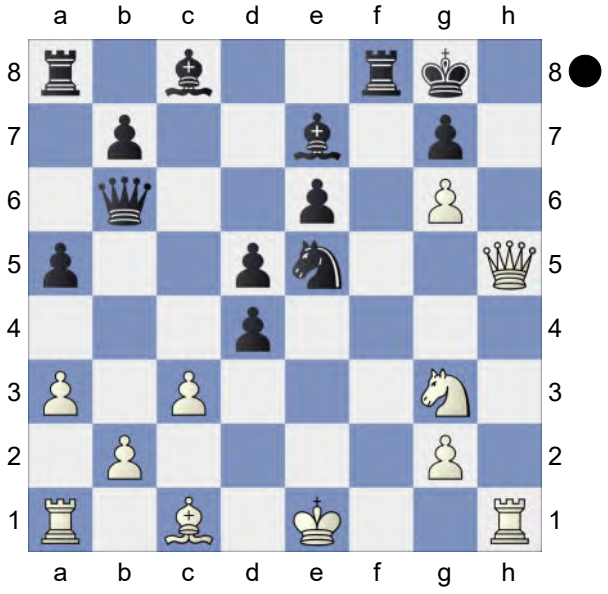
103 **C11**
□ **Ferri,Stefano** **2731**
■ **Ernst,Heinz** **2745**
(m/1) 76/12 Las Vegas (1.9) 13.11.2022
[MH]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 Be7 8.Nf3 0-0 9.h4 f6 10.a3 a5 11.Ng3** -0.49/21
[11.a4= -0.13/20 should be considered.]
11...Qb6!∓ 12.Bd3 cxd4 13.Bxh7+N -2.34/18
[13.Ng5 h6 14.Nxe6 Rf7 15.Bg6 Ndxe5 16.Bxf7+ Kxf7 17.Nxd4 Bg4 18.Nf3 Bc5 19.fxe5 Bf2+ 20.Kf1 Bxg3 21.Qe2 Nxe5 22.Be3 Qe6 #2 Classical Nce2-6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 with 9. h4]
13...Kxh7-+ 14.Ng5+ Kg8!
[14...fxg5? 15.hxg5+ Kg8 16.g6+-]

15.Qh5 fxg5 16.hxg5

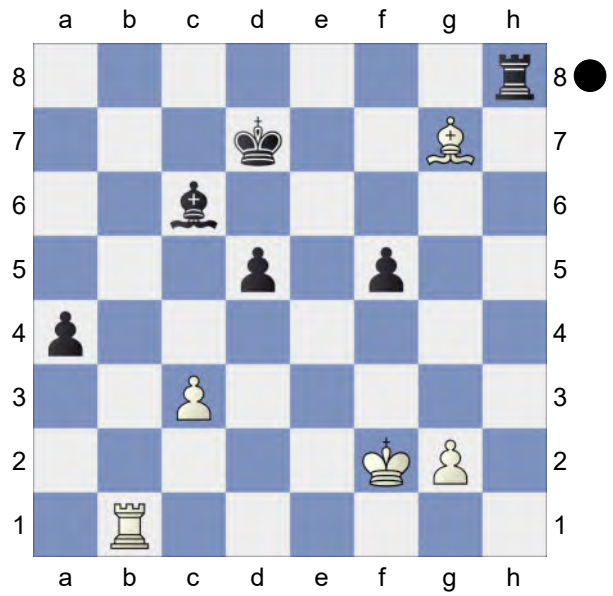


Threatening mate with g6. **16...Ndxe5**
17.fxe5 White threatens g6 and mate.
[17.g6 Nxg6]
17...Nxe5 Hoping for ...Nd3+. **18.g6**

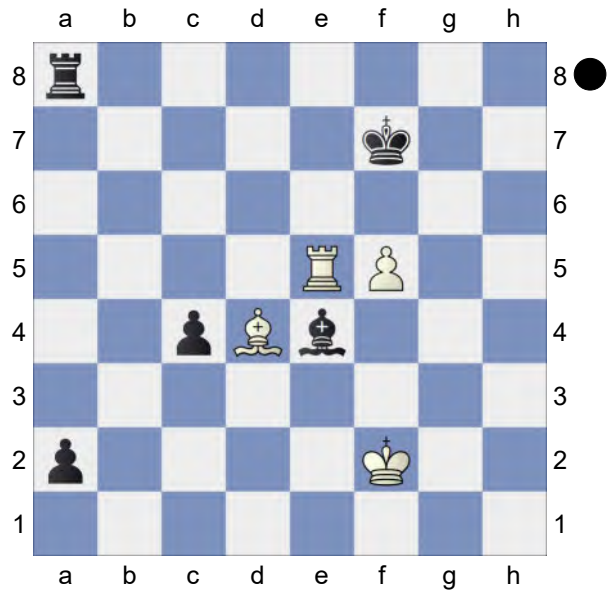


Nxg6 -0.10/22
[18...Nd3+!-+ -3.58/24 19.Kd2 Rf2+ Skewer *(19...Nxb2 20.Qh8#; 19...dxc3+? 20.Kxd3 Qa6+ 21.Kc2+-)* 20.Ne2 Bg5+ *(20...Nxb2 21.Qh8#; 20...dxc3+? 21.Kxd3 Qb5+* Skewer *22.Kxc3-+)* 21.Kxd3 Qa6+ Deflection 22.Kc2 Qxe2+ 23.Qxe2 Rxe2+ 24.Kd3 Rxg2 25.Bxg5 Rxg5]
19.Qxg6? -1.75/23
[19.Qh7+!= -0.10/22 and White has nothing to worry. Kf7 20.Rf1+ Bf6 21.Nh5]
19...dxc3 20.Qh7+ Kf7 21.bxc3 -2.73/17
[21.Qh5+∓ -1.57/18 g6 22.Rf1+ Ke8 23.Qxg6+ Kd8 24.Rxf8+ Bxf8 25.Qg8]
21...Ke8 22.Ra2 Wards off Qf2+
22...Bd7 23.Rb2 Qc7
[23...Bxa3 24.Rxb6 Bc5 25.Bg5 *(25.Rxb7 Bc6+-)* 25...Bf2+ 26.Kd2 Bc6 27.Qg6+ Kd7 28.Qxg7+ Kc8 29.Rh7 *(29.Qxf8+ Kc7 30.Qxa8 Be1+ 31.Rxe1 Kxb6 32.Bd8+* Skewer, Deflection *Kc5 33.Qxa5+ Bb5 34.Rxe6 d4 35.Re5+* Skewer *Kd6 36.Qc7#; 29.Rxc6+ bxc6 30.Rh7 Rf7 31.Qxf7 Be3+ 32.Bxe3 e5 33.Rh8#)*]
24.Ne2 -2.25/22
[24.Qxg7 -1.83/19 is a better defense. Bf6 *(24...Bxa3? 25.Rf2+-)* 25.Qg6+ Kd8 26.0-0 Qxc3 27.Rc2 Qd4+ 28.Rcf2]
24...Qe5
[24...Bxa3 25.Rxb7 Qxb7 26.Bxa3±]
25.Rxb7 Bc6! A strong pair of Bishops.
26.Qg6+ Kd8 27.Rb1 -2.40/20
[27.Rxe7∓ -1.32/18 Kxe7 28.Rh5]
27...Kd7 28.Rh7 Rh8 29.Bf4 Qf5 -0.80/22
[29...Qf6-+ -2.88/26 30.Qd3 Bxa3]
30.Qxf5∓ exf5 31.Rxh8 Rxh8 32.Kf2? -2.81/21
[32.Kd2∓ -0.97/19 only move.]
32...Bxa3-+ 33.Nd4 Bc5 34.Be3 Bxd4 35.Bxd4 Endgame. KRB-KRB **35...a4 36.Bxg7**

(Diagram)



Ra8 37.Rd1 Ke6 38.Re1+ Kf7 39.Bd4 a3 40.c4 dxc4 41.Re5 Be4 42.g4 a2 43.gxf5



Bd3 -0.03/22
[Stronger than 43...a1B 44.Rxe4 c3 45.Re1=]
[43...a1Q 44.Bxa1 Ra2+ 45.Ke3=]
[Black should play 43...Rd8!-+ -4.95/23 44.Ba1 *(44.Rxe4? is the wrong capture. Rxd4 Remove Defender, Promotion 45.Rxd4 a1Q-+)* 44...Rd1]
44.Ba1= The position is equal. **44...c3 45.Bxc3 a1Q 46.Bxa1 Rxa1** KRB-KR **47.Ke3 Bc4 48.Kf4 Rf1+ 49.Kg5 Rg1+ 50.Kf4 Kf6 51.Rc5 Rf1+ 52.Ke4 Ba2 53.Rc6+ Kg5 54.Rg6+ Kh5 55.Ke5 Bb1 56.Rf6 Kg5 57.Rg6+ Kh5 58.Rf6 Bc2 59.Rf8 Kh6 60.Rf6+ Kg7** (→ ...Re1+) **61.Rg6+ Kf7 62.Rf6+ Ke7** Strongly threatening ...Re1+. **63.Re6+ Kd7 64.Rd6+ Kc7** aiming for ...Re1+. **65.Rf6 Re1+ 66.Kf4 Kd7 67.Rf7+ Ke8 68.Rf6 Bb3 69.Rb6 Bd5 70.Rd6 Ba2 71.Ra6 Bc4 72.Rc6 Bd5 73.Rd6 Bf7 74.Rd4 Kf8 75.Re4 Ra1 76.Ke5 Ra5+ 77.Kf6 Ra6+ 78.Ke5 Ke7 79.Rb4 Ra5+ 80.Kf4 Bd5 81.Kg5 Ra1 82.Rb6 Rg1+ 83.Kf4 Re1 84.Rh6 Bf7 85.Rb6 Rc1 86.Rb7+ Kf6 87.Rb6+ Kg7 88.Rb7 Rf1+ 89.Kg5 Rg1+ 90.Kf4 Rg2 91.Ra7 Rc2 92.Kg5 Rg2+ 93.Kf4 Rh2 94.Rb7 Rh1 95.Ra7 Kf6 96.Ra6+ Ke7** Black had all chances to win. Weighted Error Value: White=0.39/Black=0.31
½-½

104 **C11**
□ **Duda,Jan Krzysztof** **2731**
■ **Grischuk,Alexander** **2745**
Speed Chess Q2 KO blitz (1.9) 13.11.22
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 Be7 8.Nf3 0-0 9.h4!** now scores much better than the old 9.g3. punktet besser als das ältere 9.g3. **9...f6 10.a3 a5 11.Ng3** Black has an edge. **11...Qb6 12.Bd3** And now Ng5! would win. **12...cxd4 13.Bxh7+N** -2.37/18
[13.Ng5 h6 14.Nxe6 Rf7 15.Bg6 Ndxe5 16.Bxf7+ Kxf7 17.Nxd4 Bg4

18.Nf3 Bc5 19.fxe5 Bf2+ 20.Kf1 Bxg3 21.Qe2 Nxe5 22.Be3 Qe6 #2 Classical Nce2-6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 with 9. h4]

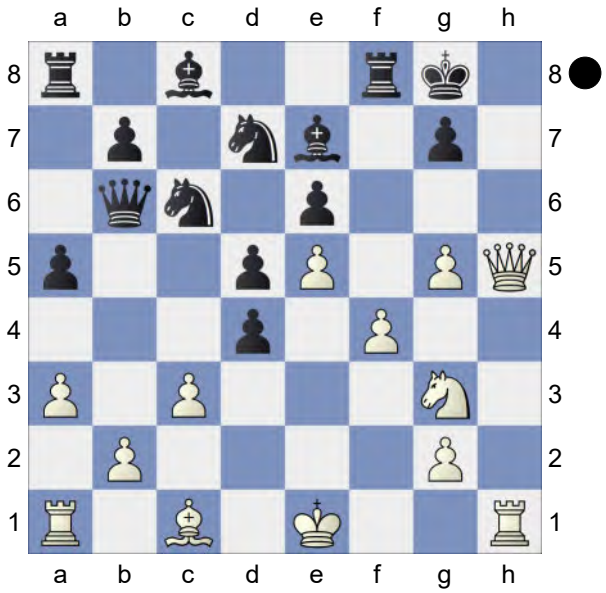
13...Kxh7-+ 14.Ng5+ -3.54/24

[⌓14.cxd4 -2.28/18 Kg8 15.h5]

14...Kg8!

[14...fxg5? 15.hxg5+ Kg8 16.g6+-]

15.Qh5 fxg5 16.hxg5

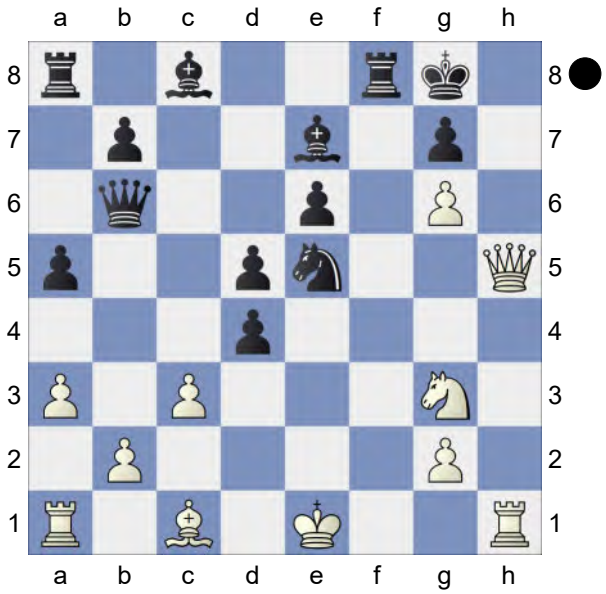


Threatening mate with g6. **16...Ndxe5** Strongly threatening ...Nd3+. **17.fxe5** White wants to mate with g6.

[17.g6 Nxg6]

17...Nxe5 18.g6

(Diagram)



Nxg6? -0.25/22

[18...Nd3+!-+ -3.67/20 19.Kd2 Rf2+ Skewer, Double Attack *(19...Nxb2 20.Qh8#; 19...dxc3+? 20.Kxd3 Qb5+ 21.Kc2+-)* 20.Ne2 Bg5+ *(20...Nxb2 21.Qh8#; 20...dxc3+? 21.Kxd3 Qb5+* Skewer *22.Kxc3-+)* 21.Qxg5 Nxc1 Pin *(21...Nxb2? 22.Qh4+-)* 22.Rh8+ Decoy Kxh8 23.Qh5+ Kg8 24.Rxc1 Qxb2+ *(24...Rxg2? 25.Qh7+ Kf8 26.Qh8+ Ke7 27.Qxg7+ Kd6 28.Qf8+ Kd7 29.Qf7+ Kc6 30.Qf3-+)* 25.Rc2 dxc3+ *(25...Qxa3? 26.Qh7+ Kf8 27.Qh8+ Ke7 28.Qxg7+ Ke8 29.Qh8+ Kd7 30.g7-+)* 26.Ke1 Qxc2 27.Kxf2 Qf5+ 28.Qxf5 exf5]

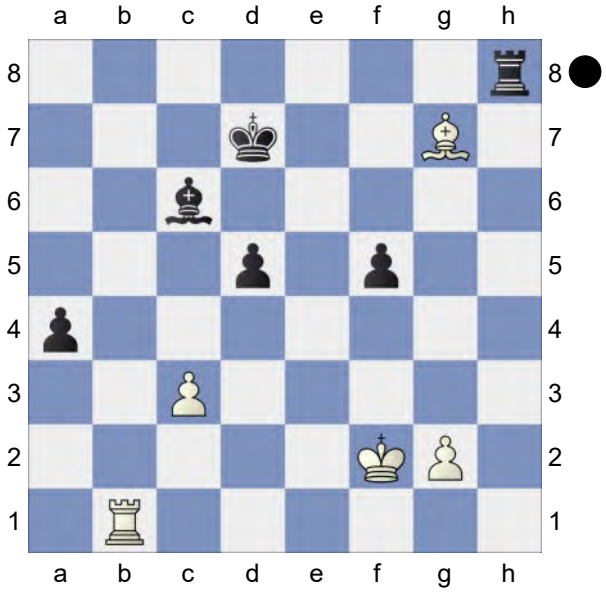
19.Qxg6? -1.81/22

[19.Qh7+!= -0.25/22 and White stays safe. Kf7 20.Rf1+ Nf4 *(20...Bf6 21.Nh5=)* 21.Rxf4+ Ke8 22.Qh5+ Kd8 23.Rxf8+ Bxf8 24.Bg5+ Kc7 25.Qf7+ Bd7 26.cxd4]

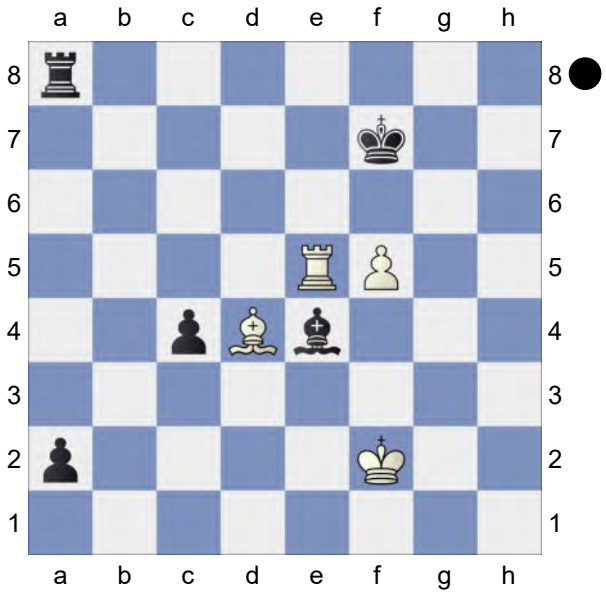
19...dxc3 20.Qh7+ Kf7 21.bxc3 -2.33/18

[21.Qh5+ -1.66/19 keeps fighting. g6 22.Rf1+ Ke8 23.Qxg6+ Kd7 24.Rxf8 Bxf8 25.bxc3]

21...Ke8 22.Ra2 -2.96/18 Prevents Qf2+
[22.Rf1 -2.04/17 might work better.]
22...Bd7 23.Rb2 Qc7
[23...Bxa3? 24.Rxb6 Bc5 25.Rxb7+-]
24.Ne2 Qe5
[24...Bxa3 25.Rxb7 Qxb7 26.Bxa3±]
25.Rxb7 Bc6! This pair of bishops is nice. **26.Qg6+ Kd8 27.Rb1** -2.01/22
[27.Rxe7∓ -1.36/19 Kxe7 28.Rh5]
27...Kd7→ Black attacks with force.
28.Rh7 Rh8 29.Bf4 -2.85/26
[⌓29.Qxg7 -1.94/18 Qxg7 30.Rxg7]
29...Qf5? -0.97/19
[29...Qf6-+ -2.85/26 30.Qd3 Rxh7 *(30...Bxa3? 31.g4-+)* 31.Qxh7 e5 *(31...Bxa3? 32.g4-+)* 32.Qh3+ Kc7]
30.Qxf5∓ exf5 31.Rxh8 Rxh8 32.Kf2? -2.78/22
[32.Kd2∓ -0.97/22]
32...Bxa3-+ 33.Nd4 Bc5 34.Be3 Bxd4 35.Bxd4 -2.94/22 Endgame. KRB-KRB
[35.cxd4 -1.90/21 was worth a try. a4 36.Kf3]
35...a4 36.Bxg7



Ra8 37.Rd1 Ke6 38.Re1+ Kf7 39.Bd4 a3 40.c4 dxc4 ...Rd8 is the strong threat. **41.Re5 Be4 42.g4 a2 43.gxf5**



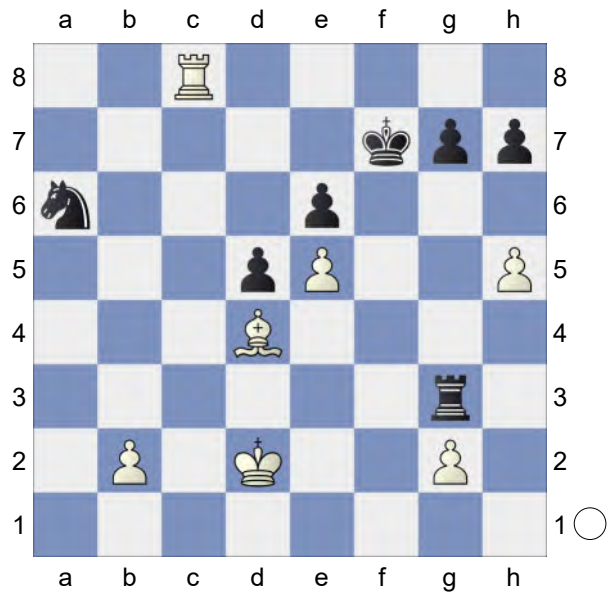
Bd3 -0.04/20
[And not 43...a1B 44.Bxa1 Rxa1 45.Rxe4=]
[43...Rd8!-+ -4.90/24 44.Ba1 *(44.Rxe4? perishes. Rxd4 45.Re1 c3-+)* 44...Rd1]
44.Ba1= The position is equal. **44...c3 45.Bxc3 a1Q 46.Bxa1 Rxa1** KRB-KR **47.Ke3 Bc4 48.Kf4 Rf1+ 49.Kg5 Rg1+ 50.Kf4 Kf6** ...Rf1+ would now be deadly. **51.Rc5 Rf1+ 52.Ke4 Ba2 53.Rc6+ Kg5 54.Rg6+ Kh5 55.Ke5 Bb1 56.Rf6 Kg5 57.Rg6+ Kh5 58.Rf6 Bc2 59.Rf8 Kh6 60.Rf6+ Kg7 61.Rg6+ Kf7 62.Rf6+ Ke7** (→ ... Re1+) **63.Re6+ Kd7 64.Rd6+ Kc7** aiming for ...Re1+. **65.Rf6 Re1+ 66.Kf4 Kd7 67.Rf7+ Ke8 68.Rf6 Bb3**
[68...Ke7!? 69.Re6+□ Rxe6 70.fxe6 Bd3=]
69.Rb6 Bd5 70.Rd6 Ba2 71.Ra6 Bc4 72.Rc6 Bd5 73.Rd6 Bf7 74.Rd4 Kf8 75.Re4 Ra1 76.Ke5 Ra5+ 77.Kf6 Ra6+ 78.Ke5 Ke7 79.Rb4 Ra5+ 80.Kf4 Bd5 81.Kg5 Ra1 82.Rb6 Rg1+ 83.Kf4 Re1 84.Rh6 Bf7 85.Rb6 Rc1 86.Rb7+ Kf6 87.Rb6+ Kg7 88.Rb7 Rf1+ 89.Kg5 Rg1+ 90.Kf4

Rg2 91.Ra7 Rc2 92.Kg5 Rg2+ 93.Kf4 Rh2 94.Rb7 Rh1 95.Ra7 Kf6 96.Ra6+ Ke7 Whites escaped into a draw. Weighted Error Value: White=0.38/ Black=0.34
½-½

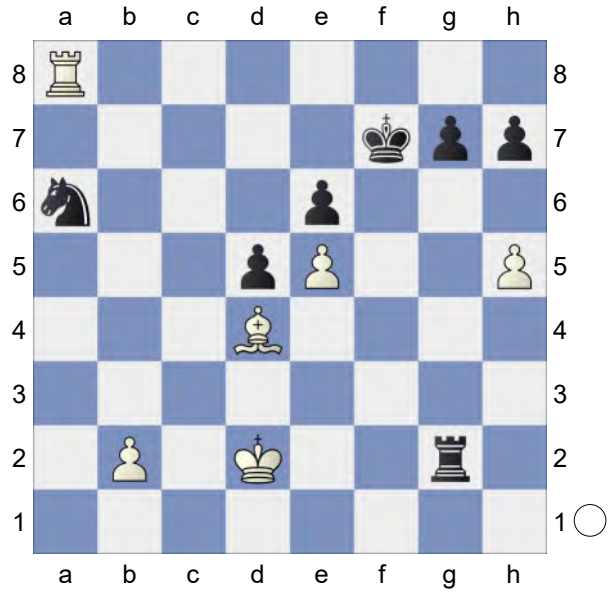
105 **C11**
□ **Vachier Lagrave,Maxime** **2731**
■ **Aronian,Levon** **2729**
Julius Baer Gen Cup D1 L (3.1) 30.09.24
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.a3 cxd4 9.Nxd4 Bc5 10.Qd2 0-0** 10...0-0 has become a bit dusty these days. 10...0-0 ist ein bisschen altmodisch geworden. **11.h4 Qe7** 0.54/21
[11...Rb8= 0.09/21]
[11...Nxd4 12.Bxd4 b5 13.0-0-0 Rb8 14.Bxc5 Nxc5 15.Qd4 Qc7 16.h5 Bd7 17.h6 g6 18.b4 Na4 19.Nxa4 bxa4 20.Bxa6 Bb5 21.Bxb5 Rxb5 22.Rh3 Rc8 23.Rd2 Rb6 24.c4 Qxc4+ 25.Qxc4 Rxc4+ 26.Rc2 1-0 Sethuraman,S (2634)-Akobian,V (2627) Saint Louis A 2019]
12.0-0-0± Bxd4 13.Bxd4 b5 14.Rh3N
[14.h5 b4 15.axb4 Qxb4 16.Na2 *(16.h6 g6 17.Na2 Qa4 18.Nc3 Qa5 19.Nb1 Nb4 20.Re1 Bb7 21.Re3 Rfc8 22.Ra3 Qc7 23.Nc3 a5 24.Bb5 Nc5 25.Kb1 Ne4 26.Qe1 Rab8 27.Qh4 Ba6 28.Ba4 Bd3 29.cxd3 Nxd3 30.Nxe4 Qc1+* 19) Rook on the Third-Alliestein Vs Stockfish Clas*)* 16...Qe7 17.h6 g6 18.Rh3 a5 19.Bb5 Nxd4 20.Qxd4 Nc5 21.Ra3 Ba6 22.Bxa6 Rxa6 23.g4 Rb8 24.f5 Rc6 25.Kb1 Qc7 26.Rc3 a4 27.fxg6 fxg6 28.Rf1 Qb6 0-1 Prraneeth,V (2485)-Artemiev,V (2698) 29th Abu Dhabi Masters 2023 (2.1)]
14...b4 15.axb4 Qxb4 16.Ne2
[16.Na2!? Qxd2+ 17.Rxd2=]
16...a5 17.Rc3N -0.01/22
[Vorgänger: 17.Bc3! Qe7 18.Nd4 Nb4 19.Qe3 f5 0.55/20 *(19...Ba6=* 0.06/21 *)* 20.Bb5± Ba6 And now ... Bxb5 would win. 21.Bc6 Hoping for Bxb4. Rac8 22.Bxd7 Qxd7 23.Bxb4 axb4 ½-½ Krakovsky,P (2293)-Daatselaar,J (2108) Champion's League 2021/C9 email]
[17.Bc3± 0.38/21 Qb6 18.Bd4 Nxd4 19.Nxd4]
17...Bb7= 18.Be3 Rfb8 0.38/22
[18...a4= -0.01/22]
19.Nd4!± Ba6 20.Rb3 Qxd2+ 21.Kxd2 Nxd4 22.Bxd4 Rxb3 23.cxb3 Bxf1 24.Rxf1= Endgame KRB-KRN **24...f6** 0.55/23
[24...Rb8= 0.06/24]
25.Ra1± fxe5 26.fxe5 Rb8 27.Rxa5 Rxb3 28.Ra7 0.04/23
[28.h5± 0.46/21 should be considered.]
28...Nb8!= 29.Rc7 Prevents Nc6 **29...Na6 30.Rc8+ Kf7 31.h5**
[31.Bc3!?]
31...Rg3 1.04/24
[31...g6!= 0.08/20]

(Diagram)



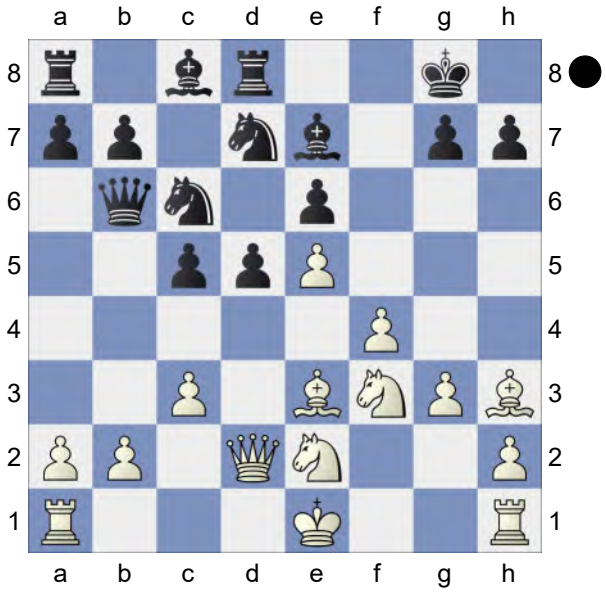
32.Ra8!± Rxg2+



33.Ke3 0.04/23
[White should play 33.Kd1!± 0.78/25 Rg4 34.Bb6 *(34.Ra7+ Ke8=)*]
33...Nb4!= The position is equal. **34.Bc5 Nc2+**
[Worse is 34...Rxb2 35.Rf8#]
35.Kf4
[35.Kf3!? Ne1+□ 36.Ke3 Nc2+ *(36...Rxb2 37.Rf8#)* 37.Kd3 Ne1+ 38.Ke3=]
35...g5+ 36.hxg6+ hxg6 37.Ra7+ Kg8 38.b4 g5+ 39.Kf3 Ne1+ 40.Ke3 Nc2+ 41.Kd3 Ne1+ 42.Ke3 Nc2+ 43.Kd3 Ne1+ Weighted Error Value: White=0.12 (very precise) /Black=0.08 (flawless)
44.Ke3
½-½

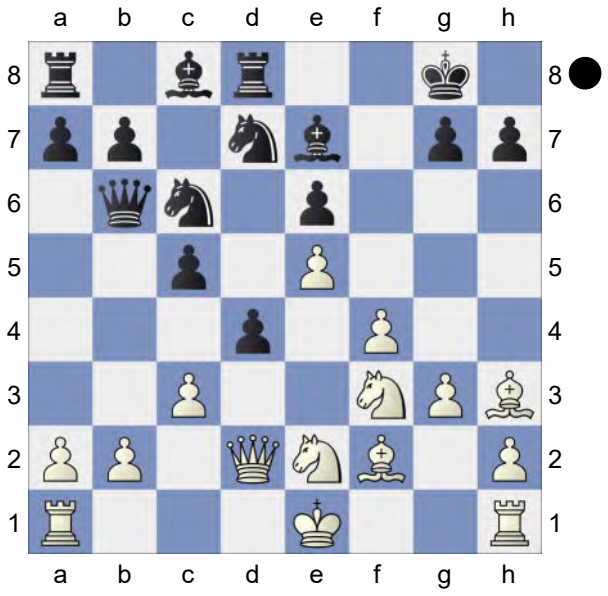
106 **C11**
□ **Kamsky,Gata** **2730**
■ **Ding,Liren** **2628**
Aeroflot Open A (6) 13.02.2011
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Ne2 Be7 8.c3 0-0 9.Be3 f6 10.g3 Qb6 11.Qd2** The position is equal.
11...fxe5 0.37/21
[11...cxd4= -0.01/19 12.Nexd4 fxe5 13.Nxe6 d4]
12.dxe5± Rd8 13.Bh3 -0.01/19
[White should play 13.Qc2!± 0.52/19]



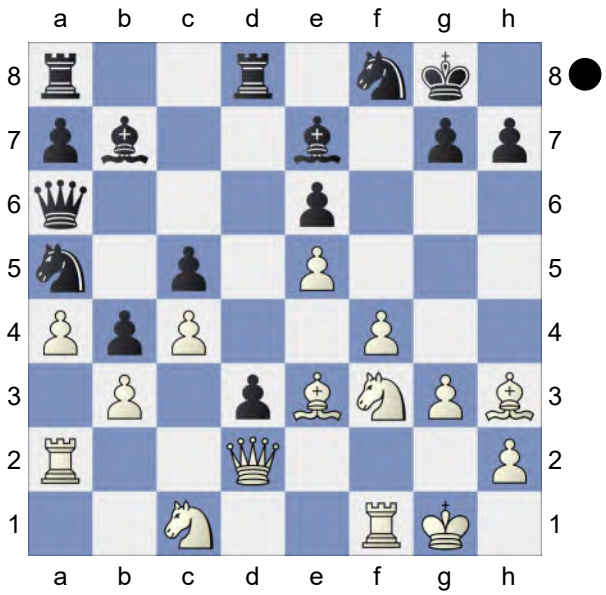
13...d4!= 14.Bf2
[14.Bxe6+? Kh8 15.cxd4 cxd4 *(15...Ndxe5? 16.Nxe5 Bxe6 17.0-0-+)* 16.Nfxd4 *(16.Nexd4?*

Bb4-+ Pin) 16...Nxd4 *(16...Bb4? 17.Nc3-+)* 17.Bxd4 *(17.Nxd4? Bb4-+ Pin)* 17...Qxe6∓]
[14.cxd4 simplifies cxd4 15.Nfxd4 Ndxe5 16.fxe5]



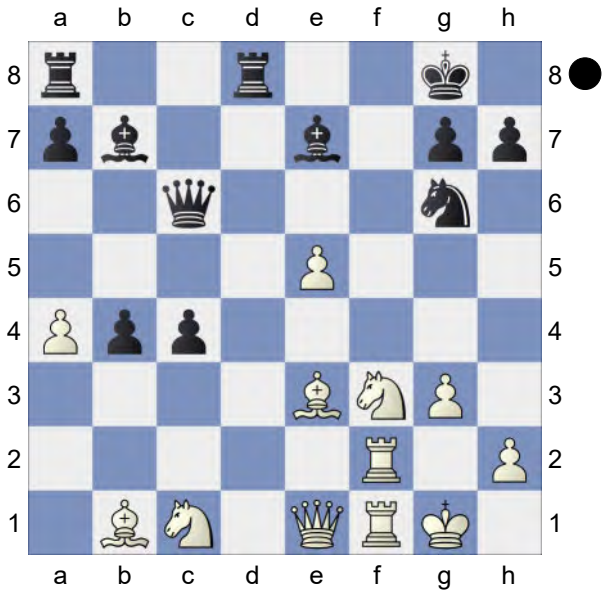
14...d3 0.52/21 **15.Nc1!±**
[15.Qxd3 Ndxe5 *(15...Qxb2 16.Qb1=)* 16.Qe4 Nd3+ *(16...Qxb2 17.0-0∓)* 17.Kf1 e5 *(17...Qxb2 18.Rd1∓; 17...Nxb2 18.Bxe6+ Bxe6 19.Qxe6+ Kh8 20.Rb1∓)* 18.Bxc8 Raxc8±]
[15.Bxe6+ Kh8 16.Bb3 *(16.Qxd3? Ndxe5 17.Qe4 Nxf3+ 18.Qxf3 Bxe6-+)* 16...Na5∓ *(16...dxe2 17.Qxe2 Na5 18.f5∓)*]
15...Nf8 0.83/20
[15...Qa6!± 0.34/20]
16.b3
[16.Nxd3 Qa6 17.Bf1 c4∓]
16...Qa6 17.a4 0.00/19
[17.0-0!± 0.51/24]
17...b5 0.43/23
[17...b6= 0.00/19]
18.0-0!
[18.Nxd3? c4 19.0-0 *(19.bxc4? bxc4 20.Nc5 Bxc5-+)* 19...Rxd3-+]

18...Bb7! 19.Ra2? -1.20/26
[19.Nxd3 Na5 20.axb5 *(20.Bxc5? Nxb3 21.Qe2 Nxc5-+)* 20...Qxb5=]
[19.Be3± 0.34/23 stays ahead.]
19...b4!∓ 20.c4 Na5 21.Be3

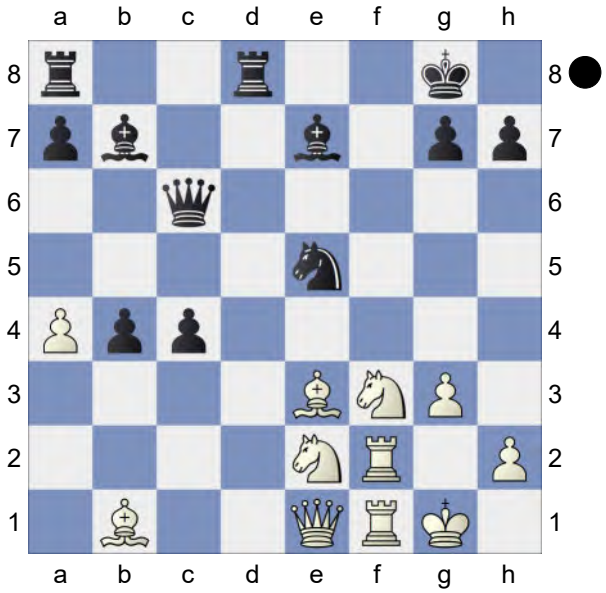


Nxc4! 22.bxc4 Qxc4 23.f5 exf5 Black is more active. **24.Bxf5 Qd5** 0.01/21
[Better is 24...Be4!∓ -1.00/21 25.Bg4 Ng6]
25.Bxd3= and Qe2 should not be overlooked **25...c4⇄** Black is fighting back **26.Bb1 Qc6**
[26...Qxf3 27.Rxf3 Bxf3 *(27...Rxd2 28.Rxf8+ Rxf8 29.Rxd2±)* 28.Qc2+-]
27.Qe1 -1.98/19
[27.Qe2= -0.01/18]
27...Ng6!-+ 28.Raf2? -4.72/19
[28.Bxg6∓ -1.16/17 was the crucial defense. Qxg6 29.Re2]

(Diagram)

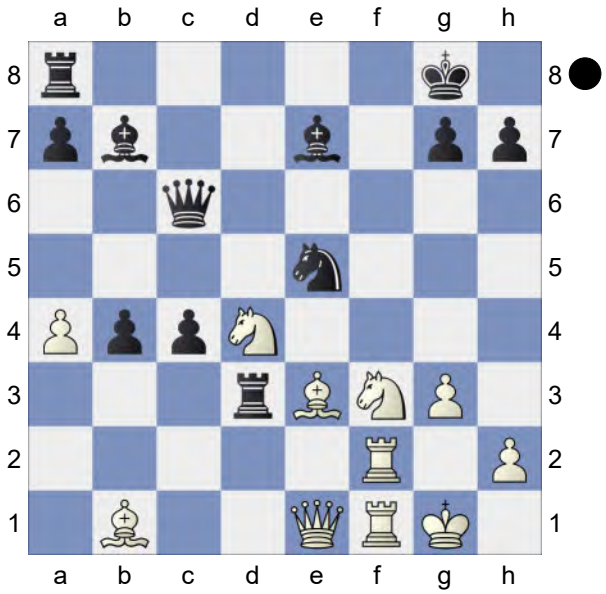


28...Nxe5! aiming for ...Rf8!. Back Rank **29.Ne2**

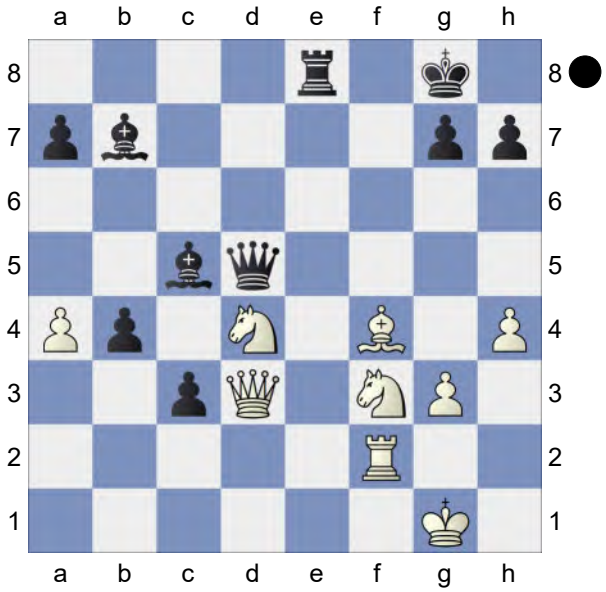


Rd3 -0.56/21 **30.Ned4∓**

(Diagram)



Qd5 Really sharp! **31.Bxd3??** -5.87/19
[31.h3∓ -1.44/19 is more resistant.]
31...Nxd3-+ Black is clearly winning.
32.Qd2 Nxf2 33.Rxf2 Rf8 34.h4 -7.38/19
[⌓34.a5 -4.94/18 c3 *(34...Qxa5 35.Ne6-+)* 35.Qe2]
34...c3 35.Qd3 Bc5 36.Bf4 Rd8 37.Be5 Re8 38.Bf4

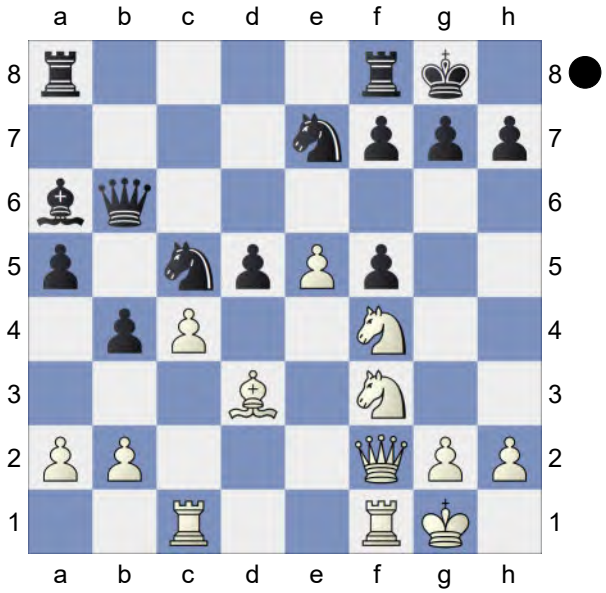


Re1+!! Back Rank **39.Rf1 Qxf3** Overworked Piece **40.Qxf3 Bxd4+ 41.Kh2N Bxf3** This pair of bishops is nice. **42.Rxe1** Weighted Error Value:

White=1.03/Black=0.38 **42...b3**
0-1

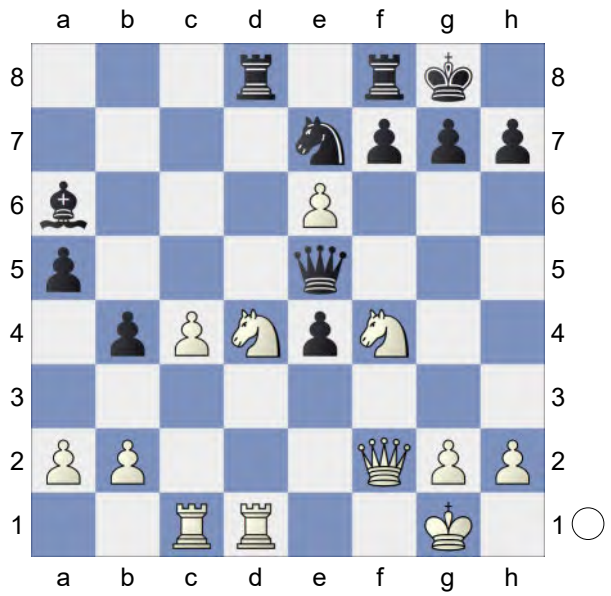
107 **C11**
□ **Gukesh D** **2730**
■ **Aveskulov,Valeriy** **2509**
Titled Tue 28. Mar Early (9) 28.03.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.Qd2 b5 9.Bd3 Qb6 10.dxc5 Bxc5 11.Bxc5 Nxc5 12.Qf2 b4 13.Ne2 a5 14.0-0 Ba6 15.f5**
[15.b3 0-0 16.Kh1 Rfb8 17.Rad1 Ne4 18.Qh4 h6 19.f5 exf5 20.Nf4 Qd8 21.Qh5 Ne7 22.Nd4 g6 23.Qxh6 Qf8 24.Qh3 Qg7 25.e6 Qxd4 26.Bxe4 Qxe4 27.exf7+ Kg7 28.Rde1 Bxf1 29.Rxe4 dxe4 ½-½ Lautier,J (2620)-Glek,I (2670) 67/370 Biel 1996]
[15.Bxa6 Rxa6 16.Nfd4 Ne4 17.Qe3 0-0 18.Rf3 Nxd4 19.Nxd4 f6 20.exf6 Rxf6 21.g3 Ra8 22.Ne2 Qc7 23.c3 Rb8 24.cxb4 Rxb4 25.b3 Rf8 26.Rc1 Qd6 27.Nc3 Nf6 28.Qe5 Qxe5 29.fxe5 Nd7 1-0 Zampronha,W (2126)-Bykov,E (2430) Titled Tuesday intern op 07th Jan Early blitz 2025 (2)]
15...exf5 16.Nf4 Ne7 17.Rac1N -0.58/20
[17.Nd4= -0.06/20]
[17.e6 f6 18.Rac1 0-0 19.c3 Qd6 20.Bxa6 Rxa6 21.cxb4 Ne4 22.Qe3 axb4 23.Nd4 Rxa2 24.Nb5 Qe5 25.Rc7 Re8 26.Qb6 Ng5 27.Rxe7 Rea8 28.Qc7 Qe3+ 29.Kh1 1-0 8) Age 15-16. Olympiad gold,2-*** Gukesh Dommaraju - Magnus,o Masterful Moves: Gukesh]
17...0-0∓ 18.c4 -1.62/19
[White should play 18.c3!∓ -0.35/20]

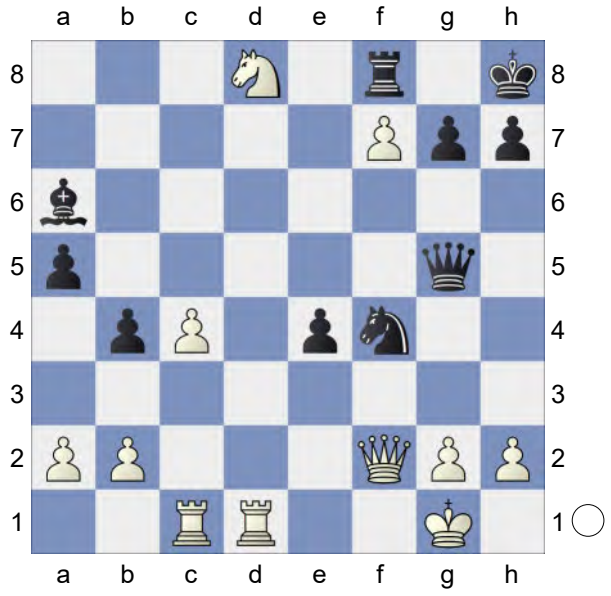


18...d4? 0.01/16 **19.Rfd1=** **Rad8** **20.Bb1** -1.10/22
[20.Nxd4= 0.09/22 keeps the balance. Nxd3 21.Rxd3]
20...Ne4∓ 21.Bxe4 fxe4 22.Nxd4 Qc5 23.e6 Qe5? 1.56/25
[23...Bxc4 24.Qe3 *(24.b3 Qe5±)* 24...Rd6 25.b3 *(25.Qxe4 Nc6=)* 25...fxe6 26.Qxe4= *(26.bxc4 e5∓; 26.Rxc4 Qg5=)*]
[23...Ng6∓ -1.31/22 and life is bright. Strongly threatening ...Nxf4. 24.Nxg6 hxg6]

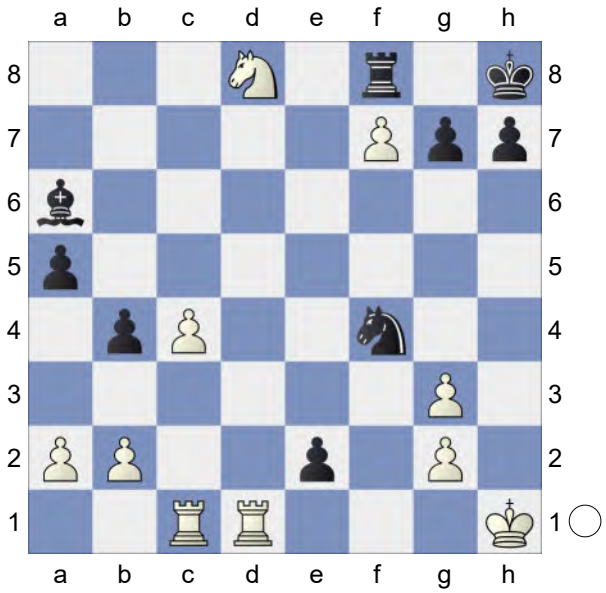
(Diagram)



24.Nd5± Deflection **24...Nxd5 25.Nc6 Qg5?** 6.24/20
[25...Qxe6± 1.42/21 26.cxd5 *(26.Nxd8 e3±)* 26...e3 *(26...Rxd5? 27.Rxd5 e3 28.Qf5+-)*]
26.Nxd8+-
[26.cxd5 fxe6 *(26...Rxd5? 27.h4+-)* 27.Qb6 Ra8±]
26...Nf4 27.exf7+
[27.Nxf7? Nh3+ *(27...Nxe6? 28.Nxg5 Rxf2 29.Kxf2+-)* 28.Kf1 Nxf2-+]
27...Kh8



28.Kh1? 0.88/21
[28.h4!+- 5.76/24 Qg4 29.Kh2]
28...e3? 7.89/23
[28...Rxd8 29.Qxf4 *(29.Rxd8+ Qxd8 30.Qxf4 Qf8+-)* 29...h6 30.Qxg5 *(30.f8R+ Rxf8 31.Qxf8+ Kh7+-; 30.Qxe4 Rc8+-; 30.Rxd8+ Qxd8 31.f8Q+ Qxf8 32.Qxf8+ Kh7 33.Qf5+ g6 34.Qf7+ Kh8 35.Rd1 Bb5 36.Rd8+ Be8 37.Rxe8#)* 30...hxg5 31.Rxd8+ Kh7 32.f8Q *(32.f8B e3+-)* 32...Bxc4 33.Qf5+ *(33.Rxc4 Kh6 34.Rd6+ Kh5 35.Qf5 Kh4 36.Qh3#)* 33...g6 34.Qd7+ *(34.Qxg5 Kg7 35.Qe7+ Bf7 36.Qe5+ Kh7 37.Qh8#)*]
[28...Nd3± 0.88/21 29.Qb6 Rxd8 *(29...Nxc1? 30.Qd6+-)*]
29.Qg3
[29.Qxe3? Qxg2#]
29...Qxg3 30.hxg3 e2



31.Ne6?? -7.97/22 **Nxe6**
[31...exd1B? 32.Nxf8 Bh5 33.gxf4+-]
32.Re1 Nd4
[32...Rxf7 33.Rxe2 Rf6 34.Re5∓]
33.Kh2 h5
[Not 33...Rxf7 34.Rcd1 Rd7

(34...exd1R 35.Re8+; 34...Bxc4? loses. 35.Rxd4 Rc7 36.Rxe2+- Back Rank) 35.Rxe2 Nxe2 *(35...Bxc4? 36.Red2+-; 35...Nf3+? 36.gxf3 h6 37.Re8+ Kh7 38.Rxd7+-)* 36.Rxd7 Bxc4 37.Re7=]

34.c5 Rxf7 35.c6 Rc7 36.Rc5 g6 37.Rd5 Nxc6 38.Rd6 Kg7 39.Rc1 Bb5 40.b3 Re7 41.Re1 Ne5 42.Rd2 Ng4+ 43.Kg1 Kf6 -15.28/38

[⌓43...Re5 -32.28/32 44.Rb2 Rd5 *(44...Rf5? 45.Rexe2 Bxe2 46.Rxe2-+)*]

44.Rd6+ Re6 -14.56/34

[⌓44...Kf5 -31.73/33 45.Rd5+ Re5]

45.Rb6 Black used his chance. Weighted Error Value: White=1.14/ Black=0.96 **45...Rxb6**

0-1

108 **C11**

□ **Duda,J.** **2729**

■ **Carlsen,M.** **2839**

Titled Tue 16th Sep 2025 blitz (7)

[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.a3 b5** 0.56/20

[8...cxd4= -0.01/19 9.Nxd4 Nxd4 10.Bxd4 Bc5]

9.Bd3± Qb6 10.Bf2

[10.0-0 Bb7 11.Kh1 h6 12.f5 0-0-0 13.Ne2 c4 14.fxe6 fxe6 15.Bg6 Ndxe5 16.Nxe5 Nxe5 17.Nf4 Nxg6 18.Nxg6 Rg8 19.Qg4 Bd6 20.Rf7 Rde8 21.Bf4 Qxd4 22.Bxd6 Qxg4 23.Rc7+ 1-0 Kopriva,M (2483)-Vereggen,L (2436) Budva 1963 (9)]

10...cxd4 0.86/23

[10...Be7± 0.50/20]

11.0-0!± Bc5

[11...Nc5 12.Nxd4 Nxd3 13.Qxd3 Nxd4 14.Qxd4 Qxd4 15.Bxd4 Bd7 16.Ne2 Rc8 17.c3 Be7 18.Kf2 0-0 19.Ke3 a5 20.Rfc1 Rfe8 21.Kd2 b4 22.cxb4 axb4 23.a4 b3 24.Rxc8 Rxc8 25.Bc3 Bc5 26.Bd4 ½-½ Krzywda,A (2173)-Badacsonyi,S (2289) Titled Tuesday intern op 14th Jan Early blitz 2025 (9)]

12.Ne2N 0.25/21

[12.Na2± 0.88/22

A) 12...Qc7 13.b4 *(13.Nc1 Be7 14.Nb3 g6 15.Nfxd4 Nxd4 16.Bxd4 Nc5 17.Nxc5 Bxc5 18.c3 Bd7 19.Qe1 h5 20.Qe3 Ba7 21.Rac1 a5 22.Kh1 a4 23.Qg3 h4 24.Qe3 Qb7 25.Kg1 Bxd4 26.Qxd4 Kf8 27.f5 gxf5* 0-1 Namitbir,S (2367)-Galaktionov, A (2316) Abu Dhabi op-A 30th 2024 (8) *)* 13...Bb6 14.Qd2 f6 15.Rae1 0-0 16.Bg3 f5 17.Bf2 Bb7 18.Nc1 Rfc8 19.Nb3 Nf8 20.Kh1 Qf7 21.Rc1 Rc7 22.Nfxd4 Nxd4 23.Bxd4 Bxd4 24.Nxd4 Rc4 25.Bxc4 dxc4 26.Nf3 Bd5 27.Rcd1 1-0 Klein,H (2074)-Kobo,O (1795) IND-ch 50th Kalkata 2012 (2);

B) 12...a5 13.b4 axb4 14.axb4 Bxb4 15.Nxb4 Rxa1 16.Qxa1 Nxb4 17.Bxd4 Qa6 18.Qc3 Nxd3 19.Qxd3 b4 20.Qxa6 Bxa6 21.Ra1 Bc8 22.Ra7 #2 26. Steinitz 7.Be3 a6-Steinitz 7.Be3 a6 8.a3 b5]

12...a5= 13.Kh1 g6 14.Qd2 Ba6 1.34/18

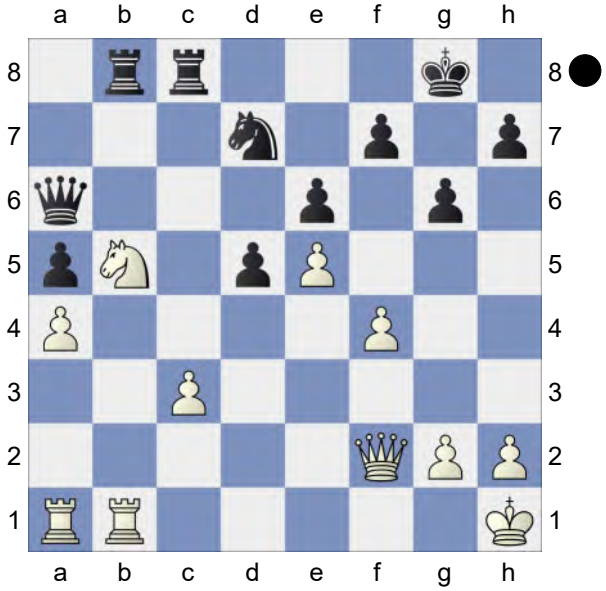
[14...0-0= 0.23/19 remains equal.]

15.Rfb1? -0.21/19 White is more active.

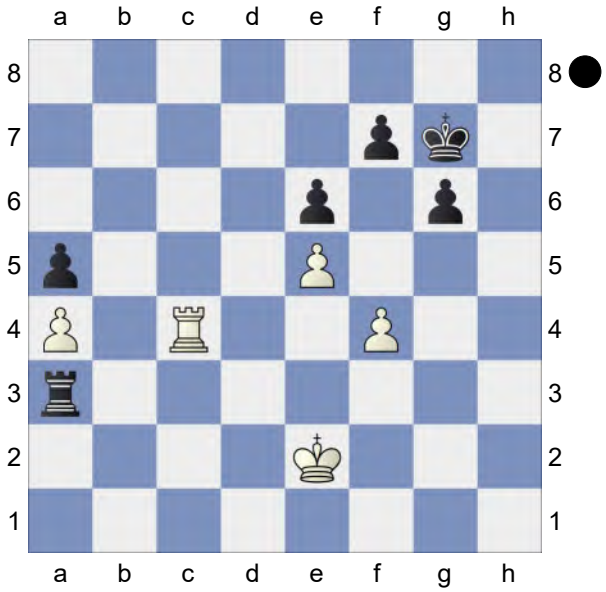
[White should play 15.f5!± 1.34/18]

15...b4 16.Bxa6 -0.60/19

[16.axb4!= 0.01/18 Bxb4 17.Qd1]
16...Qxa6∓ 17.Nexd4 -0.82/22
[17.axb4∓ -0.44/20 Bxb4 18.Qd1]
17...Nxd4 -0.46/22
[Black should try 17...bxa3∓ -0.82/22 18.bxa3 Nxd4 19.Bxd4 0-0]
18.Nxd4 -1.26/21
[18.Bxd4∓ -0.46/22 bxa3 19.f5]
18...bxa3∓ 19.bxa3 0-0 20.a4 -1.48/19
[⌓20.Nb5 -0.83/17]
20...Rfc8 21.c3 Wards off Bb4
21...Rab8 -0.56/22
[21...Ba7∓ -1.41/20 22.Bh4 Rc4]
22.Nb5 Bxf2 23.Qxf2



Nc5! 24.Nd6? -3.54/25
[24.h3!∓ -0.66/19]
24...Rxb1+ 25.Rxb1 Ne4 26.Nxe4 -3.53/24
[26.Qb6∓ -1.47/21 Qxb6 27.Rxb6 Nxd6 *(27...Rxc3 28.g3∓)* 28.exd6]
26...dxe4 Endgame KQR-KQR **27.Qd4 Qd3 28.Rd1** -4.10/25
[⌓28.Qxd3 -2.85/24 exd3 29.Kg1]
28...Qxd4 29.Rxd4 Rxc3-+ (→ ... Rc1+). KR-KR. Black is a pawn up. **30.g3 Rc1+ 31.Kg2 Rc2+ 32.Kg1 e3 33.Re4 e2 34.h3 Ra2 35.Kf2 Kg7** -1.00/24
[35...h6-+ -2.42/24 is more deadly. 36.Rxe2 Rxa4]
36.g4? -4.32/26
[36.Rxe2∓ -1.00/24 is more resistant. Rxa4 37.Rc2]
36...Ra3 37.Kxe2 Rxh3 38.g5 -5.67/28
[⌓38.Rc4 -3.63/25 h5 39.g5]
38...h5 39.gxh6+ Kxh6
[39...Rxh6? 40.Kf3-+]
40.Rc4 Ra3 41.Rc7 Kg7
[41...Rxa4 42.Rxf7 Ra1 43.Kd3∓]
42.Rc4



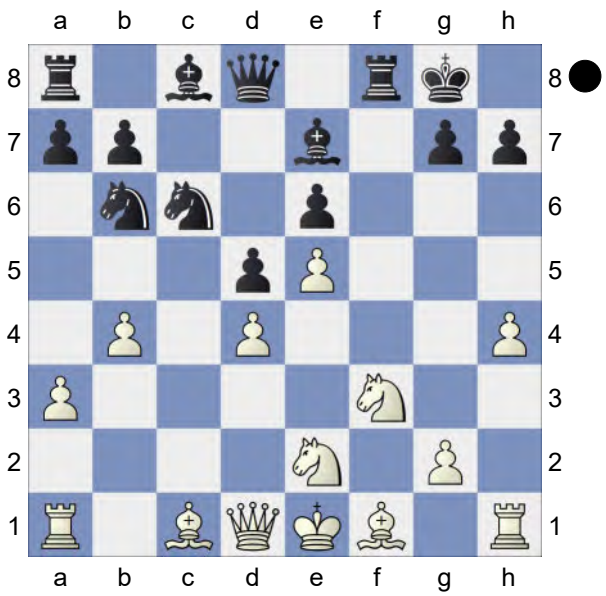
g5 -2.81/28 **43.fxg5 Kg6 44.Rf4 Rg3**
[Weaker is 44...Kxg5 45.Rxf7 Rxa4 46.Kd3∓]
45.Rc4 Rxg5? -0.14/26
[45...Kxg5-+ -2.46/28 46.Rc7 Kg6]
46.Rc5= The position is equal. **46...Kf5 47.Kf3 Rg1 48.Rxa5 Rf1+ 49.Ke2 Rf4 50.Kd3 Re4 51.Ra7 Kxe5 52.Rxf7 Rd4+ 53.Ke3 Rxa4 54.Rh7 Re4+ 55.Kd3 Rd4+ 56.Ke3** Threatening mate with Rh5+. **56...Ra4 57.Kd3 Ra3+ 58.Ke2 Ke4 59.Rh4+ Kd5 60.Rh5+ e5 61.Rh4 Ra2+ 62.Ke3 Ra3+ 63.Ke2 Rb3 64.Rg4 Rb2+ 65.Ke3 Rb3+ 66.Ke2 Ra3** And White is the lucky defender. Weighted Error Value:

White=0.51/Black=0.36 **67.Rh4**
½-½

109 **C11**
□ **Duda,Jan Krzysztof** **2729**
■ **Preotu,Razvan** **2494**
Airthings Masters Play In rapid (1)
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 Be7 8.Nf3 0-0 9.a3** 9.h4 is setting a new trend. 9.h4 setzt einen neuen Trend. **9...f6**
[9...a5 10.g3 cxd4 11.cxd4 f6 12.Bh3 fxe5 13.dxe5 Qb6 14.Bxe6+ *(14.Nc3 Ndxe5 15.fxe5 Nxe5 16.Bg2 Bd7 17.Rf1 Nc4 18.Rb1 Bf6 19.Qd3 Rac8 20.Ng5 Bxg5 21.Bxg5 Rxf1+ 22.Bxf1 Rf8 23.Qe2 Rf5 24.Bf4 g5 25.Nxd5 exd5 26.Bb8 Rf8* Black'S Centre Busting-Nxe5 Sacrifice 2008*)* 14...Kh8 15.Qxd5 Nc5 16.Bxc8 Rd8 17.Qxd8+ Qxd8 18.Bf5 Nd3+ 19.Kf1 Ndxe5 20.Kg2 Nxf3 21.Kxf3 Qd5+ 22.Be4 Qh5+ 23.g4 Qh3+ 24.Ng3 0-1 3.♘d2 g6 4.♘gf3 ♗g7 5.î (2561)-Bruce,R (2571) chess.com (ol-rapid) 147/43 2020]
10.b4 was the old line (10.h4). war die alte Variante (10.h4). **10...fxe5N** 0.43/21
[10...Qc7= -0.13/21]
[10...cxd4 11.Nexd4 Nxd4 12.cxd4 *(12.Qxd4 a5 13.Bd3 axb4 14.cxb4 fxe5 15.fxe5 Qb6 16.Bb2 Qxd4 17.Bxd4 Rf4* Steinitz Variante-13 | Steinitz mit 5.f4 + 7.Se*)* 12...f5 Quickstarter Guide Steinitz-Nce2]
11.fxe5± White is slightly better.
11...cxd4 12.cxd4 Nb6 1.56/20
[12...Qc7± 0.43/18]

13.h4N -0.46/19
[Vorgänger: 13.Qd3? -0.34/23 13.b5 1.46 Bd7 14.Nf4 Rc8 0.39/24 *(14...Nc4!∓* -0.37/20 *)* 15.Bd2? -1.42/19 *(15.h4±* 0.39/24 keeps the upper hand.*)* 15...Nc4!∓ 16.h4 Nxa3? 1.51/19 *(16...Qb6!∓* -1.44/22 keeps the pressure on. *17.Rb1 Nxd4 18.Qxd4 Qxd4* Remove Defender *19.Nxd4 Nxd2 20.Nxd5 exd5 21.Kxd2 Rf2+ 22.Be2 Rxg2)* 17.Ng5± g6 18.Nxh7 Rf5 19.Qxa3 0.48/19 *(19.Rxa3±* 1.35/21 Black must now prevent Qg3! *Kxh7 20.Qg3)* 19...Rxf4 0-1 (58) Fischer,A (2282)-Kabisch,T (2318) Wuerttemberg 2018]
[13.b5!± 1.56/20]



13...Rxf3!∓ 14.gxf3 Bxh4+ 15.Kd2 Bd7! Black has compensation. **16.Bb2?** -3.49/22
[16.Kc3∓ -0.76/16]
16...Nc4+ -1.77/20
[⌓16...Nxe5 -3.49/22 17.dxe5 Ba4 18.Qxa4 Bg5+ *(18...Nxa4? 19.Bd4-+)* 19.Ke1 Nxa4]
17.Kc1-+ Be8 18.Bh3 Bg6 -0.39/19

[Black should try 18...Bf7∓ -1.53/19 And now ...a5 would win. 19.Bc3 Bf2]

19.Bxe6+∓ Kh8 20.Qg1 Prevents Bf2.

20...Bd3

[20...N6a5!? 21.Bc3 *(21.bxa5 Bg5+ 22.f4 Qxa5-+)* 21...Nb3+ 22.Kd1 Nxa1 23.Bxa1 Bh5= *(23...Nxa3 24.Bb2±)*]

21.Qg4? -3.93/20

[White should play 21.Rh3∓ -0.37/20]

21...Bg5+? -0.56/19

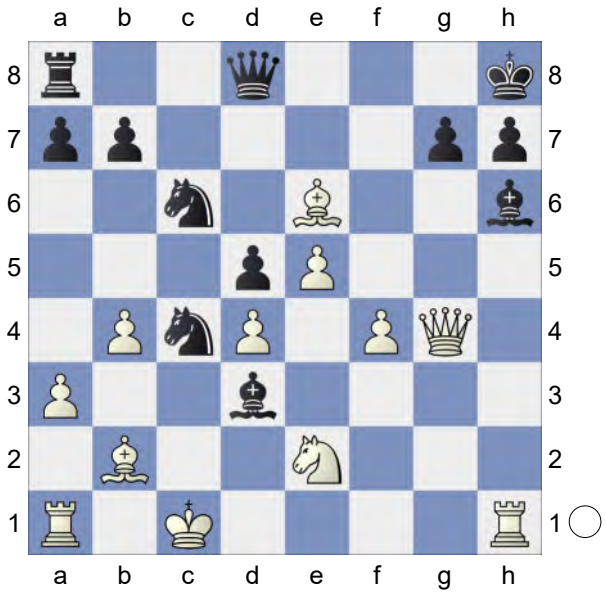
[21...Bxe2 22.Qxh4 *(22.Rxh4 Bd3±)* 22...Bd3 23.Qxd8+ Rxd8 24.Bc3±]

[21...Bf2 22.Bc3 Qb6 *(22...Bxe2 23.Rxh7+* Decoy *Kxh7 24.Qh5#)* 23.Nf4 Nxd4 24.Ng6+ *(24.Nxd3? Ne2+ 25.Kc2 Ne3+ 26.Kd2 Nxg4-+)* 24...Bxg6 25.Qxg6 Be3+ *(25...Ne2+ 26.Kc2 Ne3+ 27.Kb3)* 26.Kb1∓]

[21...N6a5-+ -3.93/20 (→ ...Nb3+) 22.Rxh4 *(22.bxa5? Qxa5 23.Nc3 Bf2-+)* 22...Nb3+ *(22...Bxe2 23.Rxh7+* Decoy *Kxh7 24.Qh5#)* 23.Kd1 Ne3+ *(23...Nxb2+? 24.Ke1-+)* 24.Ke1 Nxg4 25.Rxg4 Bxe2 26.Kxe2 Nxa1 27.Bxa1 Qb6 *(27...h5? 28.Rg1-+)*]

22.f4 Bh6 1.16/20

[22...Qc7!∓ -0.36/21 stays ahead. 23.Bf5 *(23.fxg5? N6xe5 24.dxe5 Nxe5+* Discovered Attack (Check) *25.Bc3 Nxg4-+; 23.Qxg5 Nd8∓)* 23...N6xe5 24.Rxh7+ *(24.Qxg5? Nxb2+ 25.Kd2 Qc2+ 26.Ke3 Qxe2#)* 24...Kg8 25.Rxg7+ *(25.Qxg5? Nxb2+ 26.Kd2 Qc2+ 27.Ke3 Qxe2#)* 25...Qxg7 26.Be6+ *(26.Qxg5? Qxg5 27.fxg5 Rf8-+; 26.dxe5? Rf8-+)* 26...Kh8 27.Qxg5 *(27.dxe5? Rf8-+)* 27...Qxg5 28.fxg5 Rf8]



23.Rh3!± Bxe2 1.56/20

[⌓23...Be4 1.17/22]

24.Qxe2 Nxb2 25.Qxb2 0.30/20

[25.Kxb2+- 1.63/23 Strongly threatening Rd1. Nxd4 26.Qg4 Nxe6 27.Qxe6]

25...Qb6? 1.99/23

[25...Qe7!= 0.30/20 and Black stays safe. 26.Rxh6 *(26.Bxd5 Qd7=)* 26...gxh6 27.Bxd5 Qd7 28.Bxc6 Qxc6+ 29.Qc2 Qf3]

26.Kb1 Nxd4 27.Bxd5 Rd8 1.99/20

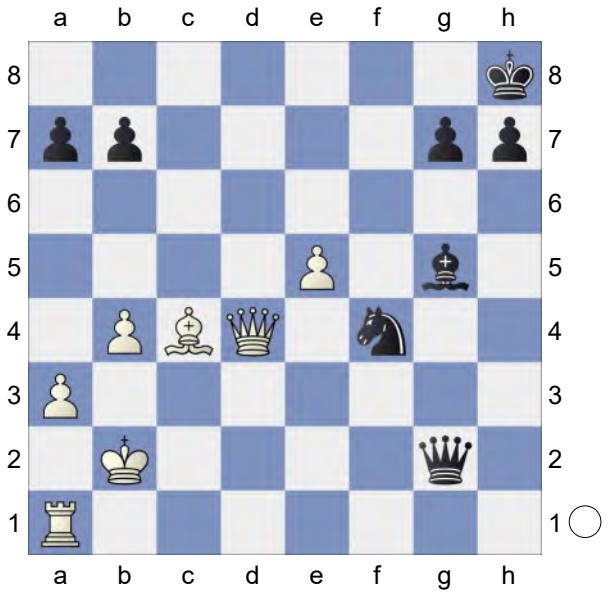
[27...Bxf4± 1.45/20 28.Qg2 Rd8 *(28...Bxe5 29.Ka2±)*]

28.Be4+- Ne6 29.Rd3 Rxd3 2.40/18

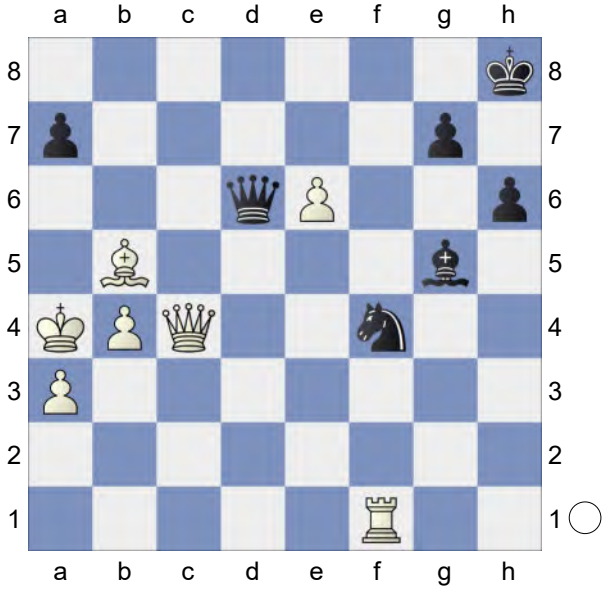
[29...Bxf4± 1.42/18 30.Rxd8+ Qxd8]

30.Bxd3 Nxf4 31.Bc4 Qc6 32.Qd4 Bg5 Against Qd8+ **33.Kb2 Qg2+**

(Diagram)



34.Kb3! Qd7! would now be deadly. **34...b5** 4.74/21
[34...Qf3+ 3.12/19 might work better. 35.Ka2 Ne2]
35.Bxb5 White is clearly winning. **35...Qf3+ 36.Qc3 Qd5+ 37.Ka4 h6 38.Re1 Ne6** 6.97/18
[⌓38...Qd8 4.74/19 39.e6 Bh4]
39.Qc4 Qd2 40.Rf1 Nf4 41.e6 Qd6

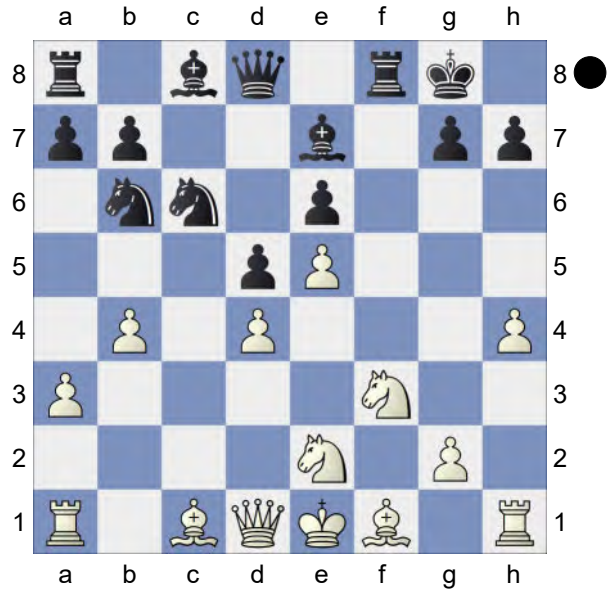


42.e7! Deflection **42...Qxe7 43.Rxf4 Bxf4 44.Qxf4 g5 45.Qd4+ Kh7 46.Bd3+ Kg8 47.Bc4+ Kh7 48.Kb5 Qe8+ 49.Ka6 Qc8+ 50.Kxa7** aiming for Qd3+. **50...Qc7+ 51.Ka6 Qc6+ 52.Ka5 Qa8+ 53.Ba6 Kg6 54.b5 h5 55.b6** Weighted Error Value: White=0.62/Black=0.64
1-0

110 **C11**
□ **Ferri,Stefano** **2729**
■ **Sakic,Milutin** **2494**
Daring Defences (1) 03.02.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 Be7 8.Nf3 0-0 9.a3 f6**
[9...a5 10.g3 cxd4 11.cxd4 f6 12.Bh3 fxe5 13.dxe5 Qb6 14.Bxe6+ *(14.Nc3 Ndxe5 15.fxe5 Nxe5 16.Bg2 Bd7 17.Rf1 Nc4 18.Rb1 Bf6 19.Qd3 Rac8 20.Ng5 Bxg5 21.Bxg5 Rxf1+ 22.Bxf1 Rf8 23.Qe2 Rf5 24.Bf4 g5 25.Nxd5 exd5 26.Bb8 Rf8* Black'S Centre Busting-Nxe5 Sacrifice 2008*)* 14...Kh8 15.Qxd5 Nc5 16.Bxc8 Rd8 17.Qxd8+ Qxd8 18.Bf5 Nd3+ 19.Kf1 Ndxe5 20.Kg2 Nxf3 21.Kxf3 Qd5+ 22.Be4 Qh5+ 23.g4 Qh3+ 24.Ng3 0-1 3.♘d2 g6 4.♘gf3 ♗g7 5.î (2561)-Bruce,R (2571) chess.com (ol-rapid) 147/43 2020]
10.b4 fxe5N
[10...cxd4 11.Nexd4 Nxd4 12.cxd4 *(12.Qxd4 a5 13.Bd3 axb4 14.cxb4 fxe5 15.fxe5 Qb6 16.Bb2 Qxd4 17.Bxd4 Rf4* Steinitz Variante-13 | Steinitz mit 5.f4 + 7.Se*)* 12...f5 Quickstarter Guide Steinitz-Nce2]
11.fxe5 The position is equal. **11...cxd4 12.cxd4 Nb6** 1.37/20
[12...Qc7± 0.35/19]
13.h4? -0.52/18

[White should play 13.b5!± 1.37/20]



13...Rxf3!∓ 14.gxf3 Bxh4+ 15.Kd2 Bd7! ...Nxe5! would now be deadly. Black has strong compensation.

16.Bb2? -3.18/22

[16.Kc3!∓ -0.63/19]

16...Nc4+ -1.82/21

[⌓16...Nxe5 -3.18/22 17.dxe5 Ba4 18.Qxa4 Bg5+ *(18...Nxa4? 19.Bd4-+)* 19.Kd1 Nxa4]

17.Kc1-+ Be8 18.Bh3 Bg6 -0.35/20

[Black should try 18...Qe7-+ -1.70/20 Threatens to win with ...Bg6. 19.b5 Nd8]

19.Bxe6+∓ Kh8 20.Qg1 Inhibits Bf2.

20...Bd3

[20...N6a5!? 21.Bc3 *(21.bxa5 Bg5+ 22.f4 Qxa5-+)* 21...Nb3+ 22.Kd1 Nxa1 23.Bxa1 Bh5= *(23...Nxa3 24.Nf4∓)*]

21.Qg4 -1.35/20

[21.Rh3= -0.24/19]

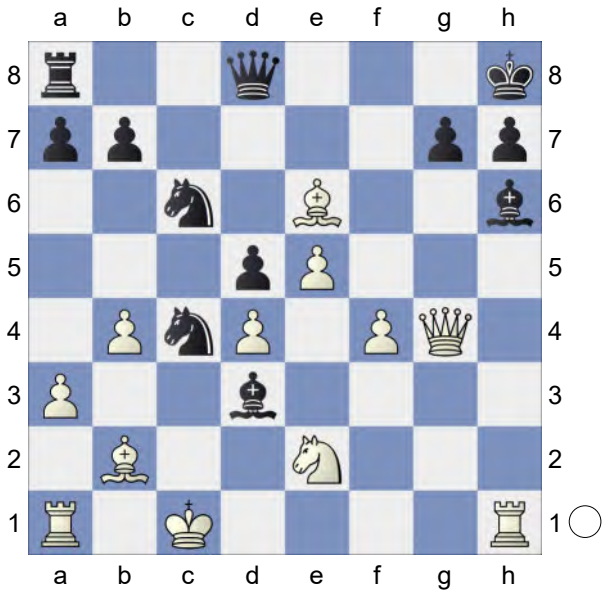
21...Bg5+ -0.04/18

[21...Bxe2 22.Qxh4 *(22.Rxh4 Bd3+-)* 22...Bd3 23.Qxd8+ Rxd8 24.Bc3±]

[21...Qc7∓ -1.35/20 22.Bc3 *(22.Qxh4? N6a5-+; 22.Rxh4? N6xe5 23.dxe5 Nxb2+ 24.Kd2 Qc2+ 25.Ke3 Qxe2+ 26.Kf4 Nc4-+)* 22...Bf2]

22.f4= Bh6 1.21/19

[22...Qc7!∓ -0.82/23 stays on course. 23.Qh3 *(23.fxg5? perishes. N6xe5 24.dxe5 Nxe5+* Discovered Attack (Check) *25.Bc3 Nxg4-+; 23.Qxg5 Nd8∓)* 23...N4xe5 Pin *(23...Bxe2 24.Qxh7#; 23...Nxd4? 24.Bxd4 Nb6+ 25.Bc3+-)*]



23.Rh3!± Bxe2 1.71/17

[23...Be4± 1.32/19]

24.Qxe2+- Nxb2 25.Qxb2 0.09/22

[25.Kxb2+- 1.69/19 And now Rd1 would win. Nxd4 26.Qg4]

25...Qb6? 1.68/23

[25...Qe7!= 0.09/22 and Black stays safe. 26.Bxd5 Qd7 27.Rxh6 gxh6 28.Bxc6 Qxc6+ 29.Qc2 Qf3]

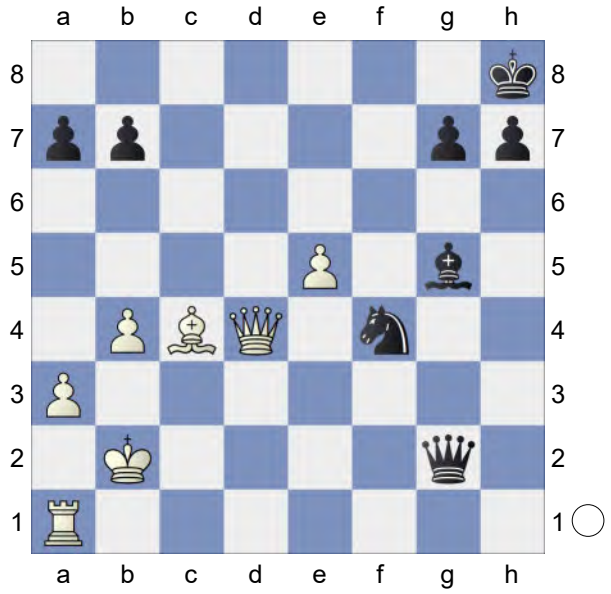
26.Kb1 Nxd4 27.Bxd5 aiming for e6!

27...Rd8 1.95/20

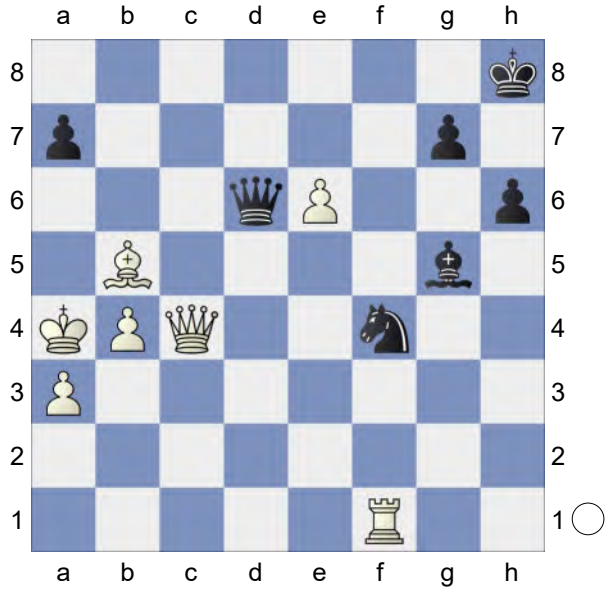
[27...Bxf4± 1.29/20 was worth a try. 28.Ka2 Rc8]

28.Be4 Ne6 29.Rd3 Black must now prevent f5. **29...Rxd3 30.Bxd3 Nxf4**

31.Bc4 Qc6 32.Qd4 Bg5 Against Qd8+ **33.Kb2 Qg2+**



34.Kb3! b5 35.Bxb5 White is clearly winning. **35...Qf3+ 36.Qc3 Qd5+ 37.Ka4 h6 38.Re1 Ne6** 7.10/22
[⌓38...Qd8 4.86/19 39.Bc4 Ng6]
39.Qc4 Qd2 40.Rf1 Nf4 41.e6 Qd6

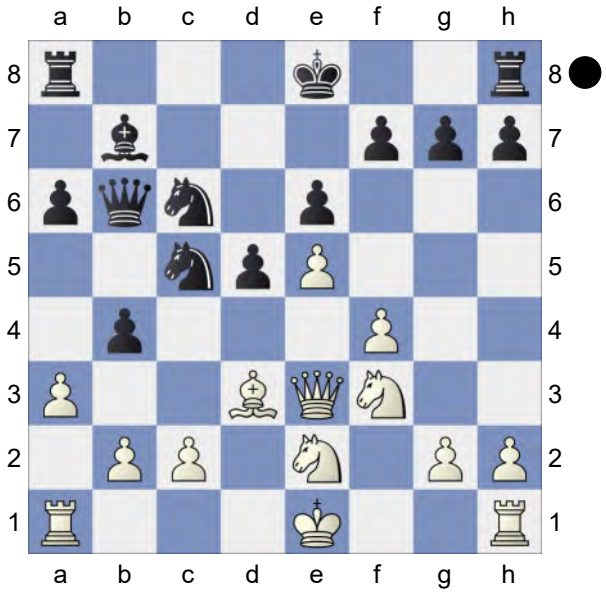


42.e7! Deflection **42...Qxe7 43.Rxf4 Bxf4 44.Qxf4 g5 45.Qd4+ Kh7 46.Bd3+ Kg8 47.Bc4+ Kh7 48.Kb5 Qe8+ 49.Ka6 Qc8+ 50.Kxa7** Threatening mate with Qd3+. **50...Qc7+ 51.Ka6 Qc6+ 52.Ka5** Hoping for Bd3+. **52...Qa8+ 53.Ba6 Kg6 54.b5 h5 55.b6** Never resign too early! Weighted Error Value: White=0.43/Black=0.51
1-0

111 **C11**
□ **Svidler,Peter** **2728**
■ **Morozevich,A.** **2741**
XXIV SuperGM (14) 10.03.2007
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.Qd2 b5 9.a3 Bb7** 0.61/19
[9...Qa5= 0.16/20]
10.dxc5 0.10/21
[10.Bd3± 0.61/19]
10...Bxc5=
[10...Nxc5 11.Qf2 Ne4 12.Nxe4 dxe4 13.Nd2 Ne7 14.c4 bxc4 15.Nxc4 Nd5 16.Bc5 Rc8 17.Bxf8 Kxf8 18.Be2 e3 19.Nxe3 Nxe3 20.Qxe3 Bxg2 21.Rg1 Bd5 22.Kf2 a5 23.Rac1 Rxc1 24.Rxc1 g6 25.f5 1-0 Carlsen,M (2859)-Mamedyarov,S (2741) Meltwater CCT Finals 2022 (3.1)]
11.Bxc5 -0.32/20
[11.Ne2!± 0.41/18]
11...Nxc5∓ Black is slightly better.
12.Bd3 b4 13.Ne2N
[13.axb4 Nxb4 14.Be2 Qe7 15.Nd4 0-0 16.0-0 f6 17.Bg4 Kh8 18.Bf3 Rad8 19.Ncb5 Nxc2 20.Qxc2 axb5 21.Rfc1 Rc8 22.Nxb5 fxe5 23.fxe5 Nd7 24.Qe2 Rxc1+ 25.Rxc1 Qg5 26.Rc7 Nxe5 27.h4 Qg3 0-1 Shourya,P (1605)-Aakash,G (1830) IND-ch U15 47th 2022 (3)]
13...Qb6 14.Qe3 -0.78/24
[14.Ned4= -0.30/20 deserves

consideration.]

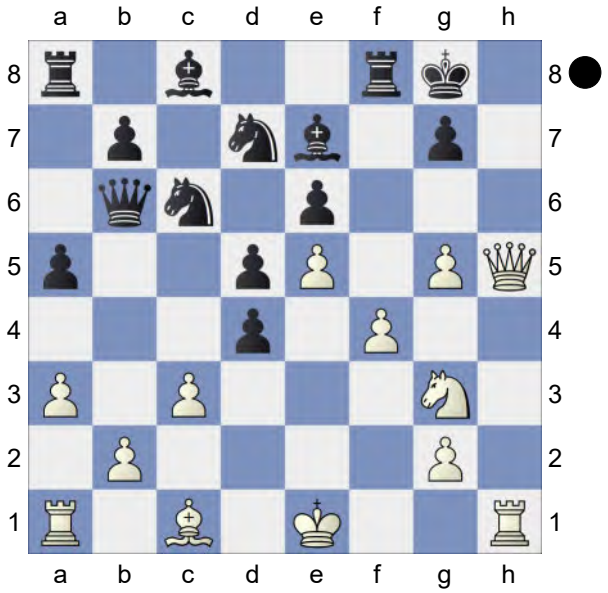


Dodges Ne4 **14...d4!** -0.39/20 **15.Nfxd4 Nxd4** -0.15/22
[15...Nxd3+∓ -0.54/22 16.Qxd3 Rd8]
16.Qxd4= bxa3
[16...Bxg2?! 17.Rg1 Nxd3+ 18.cxd3 Qxd4 19.Nxd4±]
17.Rxa3 -0.88/21
[17.b4= -0.25/21 Nxd3+ *(17...Bxg2 18.bxc5 Qa5+ 19.Kf2±)* 18.cxd3]
17...Rd8∓
[17...Bxg2 18.Rg1 Rd8 19.Rxa6 Nxd3+ 20.Qxd3=]
18.Qe3 Qxb2 and ...Qb1+ would now be decisive. Black is more active.
19.Qxc5?? -3.04/21
[Better is 19.Kf2!∓ -0.39/20 Qb6 *(19...Qxa3 20.Bb5+* Discovered Attack *axb5 21.Qxa3±)* 20.Kg3]
19...Qb1+-+ Skewer
[19...Bxg2? 20.Rxa6 *(20.Rg1 Bb7+-)* 20...Rxd3 21.cxd3+-]
20.Kd2 Qxh1 21.Nc3? -5.75/21
[21.Rb3 -2.64/18 Qxg2 *(21...Bxg2? 22.Rb6-+)* 22.Kc1]
21...Qxh2 Black is clearly winning.
[21...Bxg2 22.Rxa6 Bb7 *(22...Qxh2 23.Kc1=)* 23.Rb6 Qxh2+ 24.Ne2±]
22.Ra4 Qxg2+ 23.Kc1 Rc8 24.Qb4 Qg1+ 25.Nd1 Bf3 26.Rxa6 Intending Bb5+ and mate. **26...Qc5**
[26...Qxd1+? is the wrong capture. 27.Kb2+-]
27.Qa4+ Kf8 28.Ra5 White did not feel at home in the position after the opening. Weighted Error Value: White=0.86/ Black=0.18 (very precise) **28...Qg1**
0-1

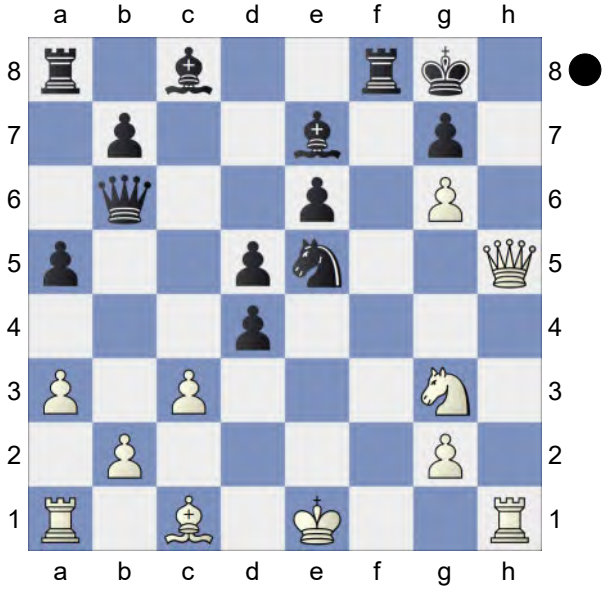
112 **C11**
□ **Duda,Jan Krzysztof** **2726**
■ **Kuzubov,Yuriy** **2625**
AI Cup Div 2 L rapid (2.1) 27.09.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 Be7 8.Nf3 0-0 9.h4 f6 10.a3 a5 11.Ng3**
[11.Neg1 cxd4 12.cxd4 Qb6 13.Bd3 fxe5 14.fxe5 Ndxe5 15.dxe5 Nxe5 16.Bc2 Bd7 17.Qe2 Rac8 18.Bxh7+ Kxh7 19.Qxe5 Bd6 20.Be3 Qb3 21.Nd2 Rf1+ 22.Kxf1 Qd3+ 23.Kf2 Bxe5 24.Ngf3 Bxb2 25.Rab1 Rc2 0-1 Olsson,S (2582)-Kavakul,M (2731) (ol) 50/544 Novi Sad 1990 (2.4)]
11...Qb6 12.Bd3 Strongly threatening Bxh7+! **12...cxd4 13.Bxh7+N** -2.43/19
[13.Ng5 h6 14.Nxe6 Rf7 15.Bg6 Ndxe5 16.Bxf7+ Kxf7 17.Nxd4 Bg4 18.Nf3 Bc5 19.fxe5 Bf2+ 20.Kf1 Bxg3 21.Qe2 Nxe5 22.Be3 Qe6 #27) Classical 5.Nce2-6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 with 9.h4]
13...Kxh7-+ 14.Ng5+? -3.85/24
[14.cxd4 -2.34/19 Rh8 15.Ne2]

14...Kg8!
[14...fxg5 15.hxg5+ Kg8 16.g6±]
15.Qh5 fxg5 16.hxg5

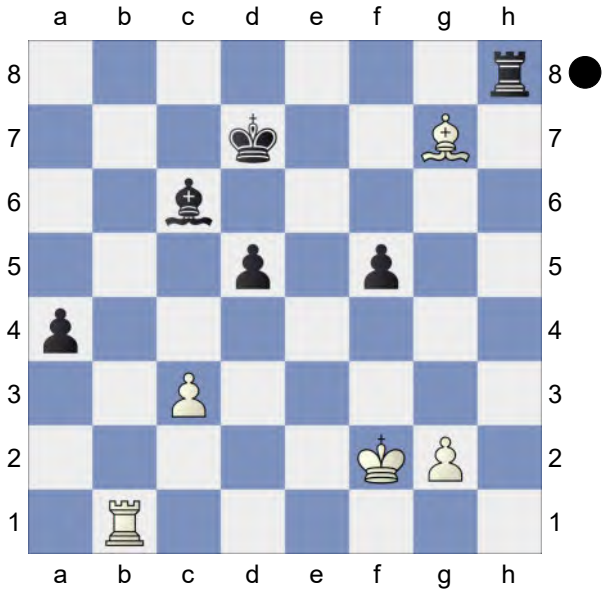


Ndxe5 16...Nf6 is vanishing. 16...Sf6 scheint zu verschwinden. **17.fxe5** Intending g6 and mate.
[17.g6 Nxg6]
17...Nxe5 Leaves trodden paths. Verlässt die ausgetretenen Pfade. **18.g6**

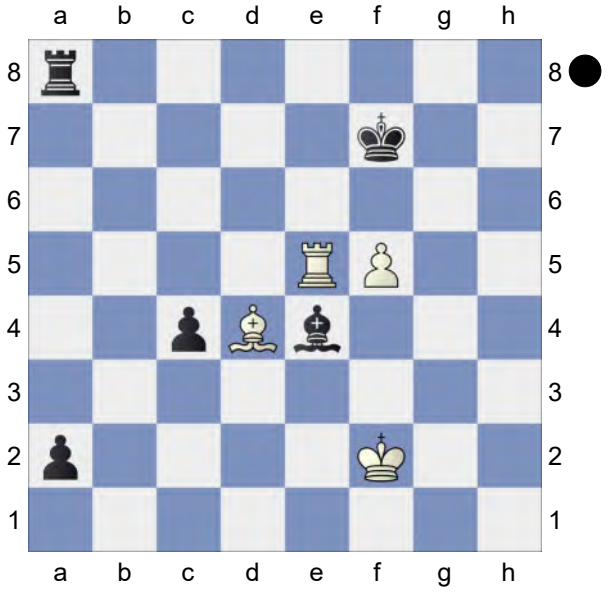


Nxg6? -0.45/21
[18...Nd3+!-+ -3.26/21 19.Kd2 Rf2+ Skewer *(19...Nxb2 20.Qh8#; 19...dxc3+? 20.Kxd3 Qb5+ 21.Kc2+-)* 20.Ne2 Bg5+ *(20...Nxb2 21.Qh8#; 20...dxc3+ 21.Kxd3 Qb5+* Skewer *22.Kxc3-+)* 21.Kxd3 Qb5+ Deflection 22.Kc2 Qxe2+ *(22...Rxe2+? 23.Kb1-+)* 23.Qxe2 Rxe2+ 24.Kd3 Rxg2 25.Bxg5 e5 *(25...Rxg5? 26.Rhg1-+)* 26.cxd4 Bf5+ *(26...Rxg5? 27.Ke3-+)* 27.Ke3 Rg3+ *(27...Rxg5? 28.dxe5 Bxg6* Discovered Attack *29.Rag1-+; 27...Bxg6? 28.Rhg1-+)* 28.Ke2 Rxg5 29.dxe5 Re8 *(29...Rxg6? 30.Rhf1-+; 29...Bxg6? 30.Rhg1-+)*]
19.Qxg6N -1.72/22
[19.Qh7+!∓ -0.45/21 Kf7 20.Rf1+ Bf6 21.Nh5]
19...dxc3-+ 20.Qh7+ Kf7 21.bxc3 -2.79/18
[21.Qh5+∓ -1.54/20 was worth a try. g6 22.Rf1+ Ke8 23.Qxg6+ Kd7 24.Rxf8 Bxf8 25.bxc3]
21...Ke8 22.Ra2 Dodges Qf2+ **22...Bd7 23.Rb2 Qc7**
[23...Bxa3? 24.Rxb6 Kd8 25.Bxa3+-]
24.Ne2 Qe5 -1.35/20
[24...Bxa3 25.Rxb7 Qxb7 26.Bxa3±]
[24...Bc6-+ -2.33/21 Hoping for ... Qe5. 25.Qg6+ Kd8]
25.Rxb7 Bc6! A strong pair of Bishops.
26.Qg6+ Kd8 Chess con chili. **27.Rb1** -2.35/23
[⌓27.Rxe7 -1.70/20 Kxe7 28.Rh5]
27...Kd7 28.Rh7 Rh8→ And now ... Rxh7 would win. Black has strong attack.
29.Bf4 Qf5 -0.84/21
[29...Qf6-+ -2.79/26 and Black stays clearly on top. 30.Qd3 Rxh7 *(30...Bxa3? 31.g4-+)* 31.Qxh7 e5 *(31...Bxa3? 32.g4-+)* 32.Qh3+ Kc7]
30.Qxf5∓ exf5 31.Rxh8 Rxh8 32.Kf2? -2.92/20
[32.Kd2∓ -0.97/21 was the only

defense.]
32...Bxa3-+ 33.Nd4 Bc5 34.Be3 Bxd4 35.Bxd4 Endgame. KRB-KRB **35...a4 36.Bxg7**



Ra8 37.Rd1 Ke6 38.Re1+ Kf7 39.Bd4 a3 40.c4 dxc4 41.Re5 Be4 42.g4 a2 43.gxf5

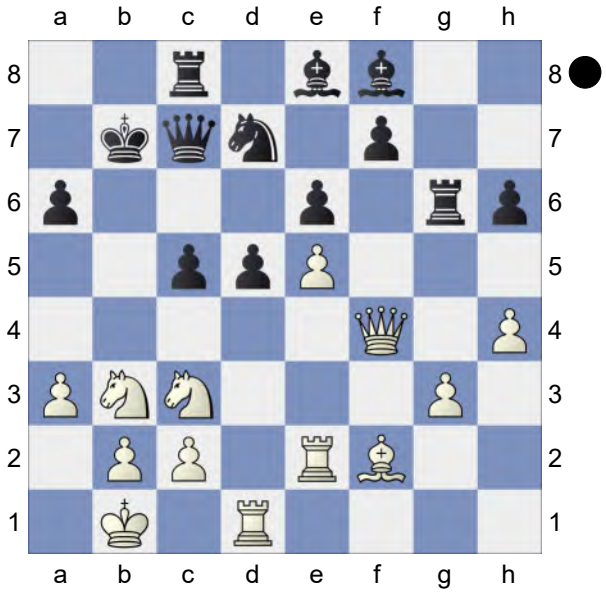


Bd3 -0.03/21
[Weaker is 43...a1B 44.Bxa1 Ra2+ 45.Ke3=]
[43...Rd8!-+ -4.86/24 44.Bc3 *(44.Rxe4? perishes. Rxd4 45.Rxd4 a1Q-+)* 44...Rd3]
44.Ba1= The position is equal. **44...c3 45.Bxc3 a1Q**
[45...Rc8 keeps more tension. 46.Ba1 Rc1 47.Bd4 a1Q]
46.Bxa1 Rxa1 KRB-KR **47.Ke3 Bc4 48.Kf4 Rf1+ 49.Kg5 Rg1+ 50.Kf4 Kf6 51.Rc5 Rf1+ 52.Ke4 Ba2 53.Rc6+ Kg5 54.Rg6+ Kh5 55.Ke5 Bb1 56.Rf6 Kg5 57.Rg6+ Kh5 58.Rf6 Bc2 59.Rf8 Kh6 60.Rf6+ Kg7 61.Rg6+ Kf7 62.Rf6+ Ke7** (→ ...Re1+) **63.Re6+ Kd7 64.Rd6+ Kc7 65.Rf6 Re1+ 66.Kf4 Kd7 67.Rf7+ Ke8 68.Rf6 Bb3**
[68...Ke7!? 69.Re6+□ Rxe6 70.fxe6 Bd3=]
69.Rb6 Bd5 70.Rd6 Ba2 71.Ra6 Bc4 72.Rc6 Bd5 73.Rd6 Bf7 74.Rd4 Kf8
Vorgänger: **75.Re4 Ra1 76.Ke5 Ra5+ 77.Kf6 Ra6+ 78.Ke5 Ke7 79.Rb4 Ra5+ 80.Kf4 Bd5 81.Kg5**
½-½ Nisipeanu,L (2661)-Aronian,L (2780) Olympiad-43 Batumi 2018 (11.1)
81...Ra1 82.Rb6 Rg1+ 83.Kf4 Re1 84.Rh6 Bf7 85.Rb6 Rc1 86.Rb7+ Kf6 87.Rb6+ Kg7 88.Rb7 Rf1+ 89.Kg5 Rg1+ 90.Kf4 Rg2 91.Ra7 Rc2 92.Kg5 Rg2+ 93.Kf4 Rh2 94.Rb7 Rh1 95.Ra7 Kf6 96.Ra6+ Ke7
White happily takes the draw. Weighted Error Value: White=0.35/Black=0.30. Sensor Board Error (Ke4/e5)?
0-1

113 **C11**
□ **Vidit,Santosh Gujrathi** **2726**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2797**
WR Chess Masters 2024 (2.1) 15.10.24
[Kitty Kat]

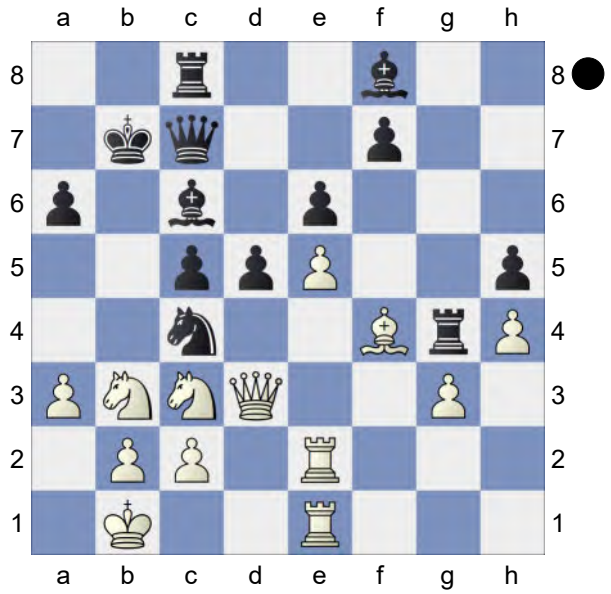
C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3**

Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 h6 0.62/16
[7...a6= 0.20/18 might be stronger.]
8.Qd2± g5 0.96/18 **9.dxc5!±** White is more active.
[9.fxg5 cxd4 10.Nxd4 Ndxe5=]
9...gxf4 White is better. **10.Bxf4 Nxc5N**
[10...Bxc5 11.0-0-0 a6 12.Kb1 Qa5 13.Bxh6 Bb4 14.Be3 Bxc3 15.Qxc3 Qxc3 16.bxc3 Ndxe5 17.Nxe5 Nxe5 18.Bd4 f6 19.Re1 Ng4 20.c4 dxc4 21.Bxc4 e5 22.h3 Nh6 23.Rhf1 Nf5 24.Bb2 Nd6 25.Bd3 ½-½ Firouzja,A (2759)-Rapport,R (2763) Paris GCT Rapid 2021 (6)]
[10...a6 11.Bd3 *(11.0-0-0 Nxc5 12.Qf2 b5 13.Be3 Nd7 14.Be2 Qa5 15.Rhf1 b4 16.Nb1 Qc7 17.Nbd2 Bb7 18.Nb3 Bg7 19.Nfd4 Ncxe5 20.Qg3 Rg8 21.Nxe6 fxe6 22.Bh5+ Kd8 23.Nd4 Nd3+ 24.Rxd3 Qxg3 25.hxg3 Bxd4* ½-½ Gonzalez De la Torre,S (2423)-Moskalenko,V (2475) ESP-chT CECLUB Honor 2019 (2.4)*)* 11...Bxc5 12.0-0-0 Qa5 13.Bxh6 Bb4 14.Be3 Rg8 15.Rhf1 Bxc3 16.bxc3 Rg4 17.Rde1 Ndxe5 18.Nxe5 Nxe5 19.Kd1 Nxd3 20.cxd3 Ra4 21.Rf2 Qb5 22.Ke2 e5 23.Bg5 e4 24.Kf1 Be6 25.Kg1 1-0 Egoshin, G (2423)-Loeschnauer,R (2427) corr WS/SIM/A/17 2023]
11.Bd3 0.40/20
[11.Bb5± 0.90/18]
11...Qb6 12.0-0-0 Bd7 13.Be3 0.01/18
[13.Bb5± 0.53/18]
13...Qa5 0.70/18
[13...Nxd3+!= 0.01/18 14.Qxd3 Qd8]
14.Kb1 0.16/20
[14.Bb5± 0.70/18]
14...0-0-0 15.Bb5 Be8 16.a3 0.26/19
[16.Qf2± 0.70/18 Nd7 17.Bxc6 bxc6 18.g4 *(18.Bxa7? c5∓)*]
16...Nd7!= 17.Rhe1 a6 18.Bxc6 bxc6 Black is weak on the dark squares **19.Bf2** -0.01/18
[19.Nd4!± 0.51/19 Nxe5 20.Nb3]
19...Kb7! 20.Nd4 Qc7 21.Nb3 A dynamic duo of knights. **21...Rg8 22.g3** -0.39/19
[22.Be3= 0.20/19]
22...Rc8 23.Re2 -0.99/18
[23.Be3= -0.12/18]
23...Rg6 -0.49/18
[23...c5∓ -0.99/18]
24.Qf4 -1.02/17
[Better is 24.h3∓ -0.49/18]
24...c5∓ 25.h4 -2.12/18
[25.Rde1!∓ -0.67/16]

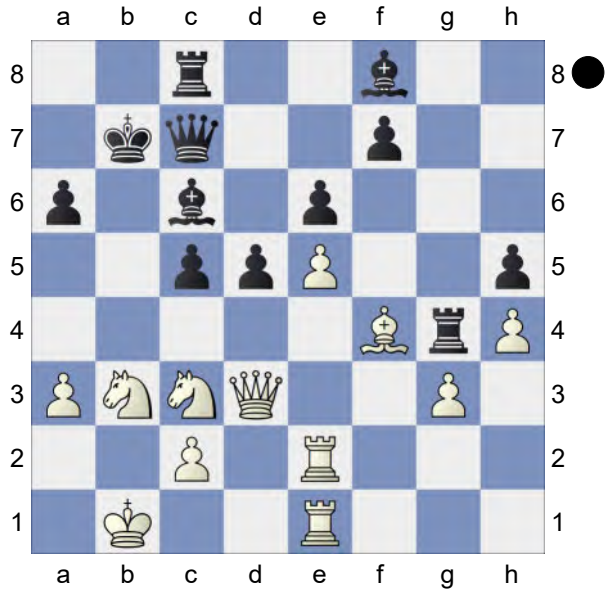


25...h5!-+ 26.Rde1 -2.14/17
[⌓26.Be3 -1.74/18]
26...Nb6 27.Qf3 Rg4 28.Be3 Nc4
[28...Qxe5? 29.Bxc5 Qc7 30.Bxf8+-]
29.Bf4 Bc6 30.Qd3 -1.74/21
[30.Nd1∓ -1.29/18 is a better defense.]

(Diagram)



30...Nxa3+! 31.bxa3

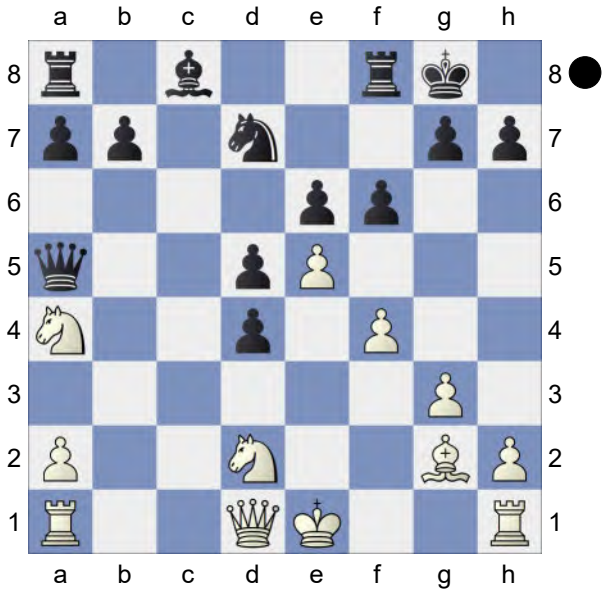


c4! Discovered Attack, Double Attack
32.Qd4 -2.31/22
[⌓32.Qe3 -1.90/26 cxb3 33.cxb3]
32...cxb3 33.cxb3 Bxa3 34.Ra2 Be7 -0.91/19
[34...Qa5-+ -2.26/26 is more deadly. 35.Rc1 Qb4 36.Qxb4+ Bxb4]
35.Rc1∓ Bd7 -0.06/22
[35...Qb6∓ -0.88/24 36.Qxb6+ Kxb6 37.Na4+ Kb7 38.Nc5+ Bxc5 39.Rxc5 d4]
36.Qd3= Qb6 37.Qh7! Wards off Bxh4
37...Bb4
[37...Qxb3+? perishes. 38.Rb2+-]
[37...Qb4!? 38.Qxf7 Rxc3 *(38...Qxb3+? 39.Rb2+-)* 39.Rxc3 Rxf4 *(39...Qxc3 40.Qxe7 Qc8 41.Rc2±)* 40.gxf4 Qxc3 41.Qxe7 Qe1+ *(41...Qxb3+? 42.Rb2+-)* 42.Kc2 Qe2+ 43.Kc1 Qe1+ 44.Kc2=]
38.Ne2 Hoping for Rxc8. **38...Rgg8** ...Bb5 would now be deadly. **39.Qxf7 Qb5**
[39...Rxc1+ 40.Nxc1 Qd8 41.Nd3± *(41.Qxh5 Qf8±)*]
40.Nd4 Chess con chili. **40...Qd3+** 3.29/24
[40...Rgf8!= 0.18/23 41.Qg6 Rxc1+ 42.Bxc1 Qf1]
41.Rac2+- Rgd8 42.Bg5! Ka8
[Don't blunder 42...Rxc2? 43.Rxc2 Qxd4 44.Bxd8 Qd1+ 45.Kb2+-]
43.Bxd8 Rxd8 44.Nxe6 -0.01/23
[44.Qf2+- 3.07/22]
44...Qxb3+= The position is equal. **45.Rb2 Qd3+ 46.Rcc2 Rc8 47.Qxd7 Rxc2 48.Rxc2 Qb3+ 49.Rb2 Qd3+ 50.Ka1 Qa3+ 51.Kb1 Qd3+ 52.Rc2** White threatens Nc7+ and mate. **52...Qb3+ 53.Rb2** What a bad dream for Black. Weighted Error Value: White=0.29 (precise) /Black=0.25 (precise) **53...Qd3+**
½-½

114 **C11**
□ **Wang,Hao** **2722**
■ **Ding,Liren** **2547**
1st GM Danzhou CHN (5) 15.06.2010
[Kitty Kat]

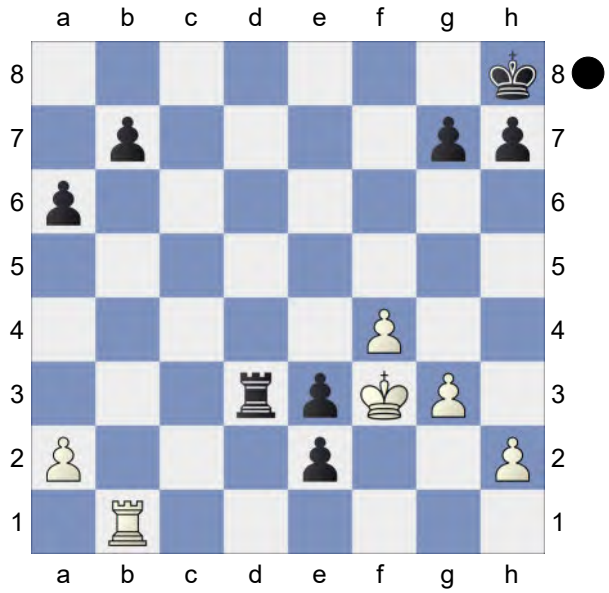
C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3**

Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Qb6 8.Na4 Qa5+ 9.c3 cxd4 10.b4 Nxb4 11.cxb4 Bxb4+ 12.Bd2 Bxd2+ 13.Nxd2 0-0 2.16/22
[13...b6± 0.77/23]
14.g3N -1.29/24
[14.Bd3∞ b5 15.Nb2 Nb6 *(15...Qc3 16.Qb1 Nc5 17.Bxh7+ Kh8 18.Bd3 f6 19.Ke2 fxe5 20.Rc1 Qa3 21.fxe5 Ba6 22.Rxc5 Qxc5 23.Qe1 Rf4 24.Qg3 Raf8 25.Qh3+ Kg8 26.Qxe6+ R8f7 27.Rf1 Rxf1 28.Nxf1 Bc8 29.Qe8+ Qf8 30.Qxf8+* ½-½ Paravyan,D (2601)-Kozlov,G (2401) Titled Tuesday intern op 16th May Late blitz 2023 (1) *)* 16.0-0 Nc4
A) 17.Bxh7+ Kxh7 18.Qh5+ Kg8 19.Nf3 g6 20.Qh6 Qc7 21.Nh4 *(21.Nd3 f6 22.Qxg6+ Qg7 23.Qxg7+ Kxg7 24.exf6+ Kxf6 25.Nxd4 Rg8 26.Rae1 Rb8 27.Re2 b4 28.Nc5 Nd6 29.Ndxe6 Nb5 30.Re5 Rb6 31.Rfe1 Re8 32.Nd4 Rxe5 33.fxe5+ Ke7 34.Nxb5 Rxb5 35.Nb3 Bd7* 1-0 Nogga,U (2432)-Dzenis,J (2237) corr 60years/BdF/Posturnier/Finale 2010*)* 21...f6 22.Nxg6 Qg7 23.Qh5 Rf7 24.Nxc4 dxc4 25.Rf3 Qh7 26.Qg4 Rg7 27.Rg3 Rb8 28.h4 f5 29.Qg5 Rxg6 30.Qd8+ Kg7 31.Qf6+ Kh6 ½-½ 17.♗g5 h6_22365 (2596)-Shvedchikov,A (2543) 23/613 Torremolinos 1977;
B) 17.Nbxc4 bxc4 18.Bxh7+ Kxh7 19.Qh5+ Kg8 20.Nf3 g6 21.Qh6 Qc7 22.f5 exf5 23.Rae1 f6 24.exf6 Qh7 25.Qf4 Qf7 26.Re7 Qxf6 27.Rfe1 Bd7 28.Rxd7 Rae8 29.Ne5 1-0 Ould Ahmed,S (2411)-Daniel,A (2299) corr Giraudet mem 2009]
[14.Bd3+- 2.16/22]
14...f6∓ 15.Bh3?! -2.66/24
[15.Bg2

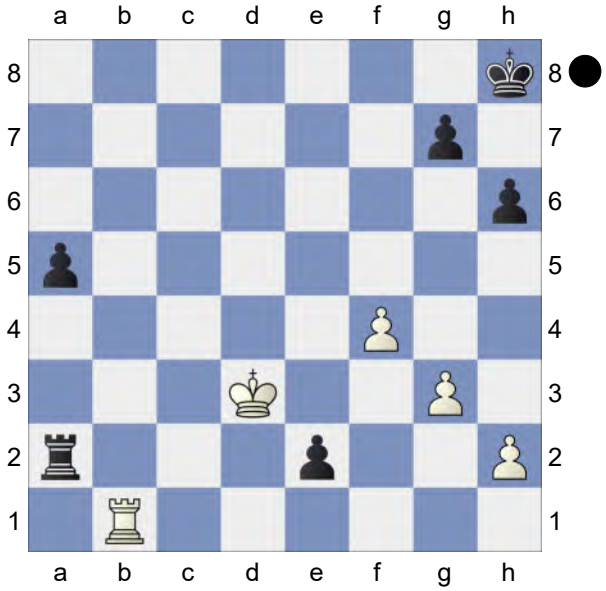


Strongly threatening exf6. fxe5 -0.65/23 *(15...b5!∓* -1.34/26 *16.Nb2 fxe5)* 16.0-0∓ e4 17.Nxe4 dxe4 18.Qxd4 Nf6∓]
[15.Bg2∓ -0.99/23 only move.]
15...fxe5-+ Black has a decisive advantage. **16.0-0 e4 17.Bxe6+ Kh8 18.Rc1 d3 19.Rxc8?** -4.26/27
[19.f5 -2.39/23]
19...Raxc8 20.Bxd7 Rc7
[20...Rc2 21.Nb3 Qc7 22.Bb5±]
21.Nb3 Qb4 22.Nac5 -4.86/23
[22.a3 Qxa3 23.Nac5 Rxc5 24.Nxc5 Qxc5+ 25.Kg2 d4-+ *(25...Qc2+ 26.Qxc2 dxc2 27.Rc1±)*]
[22.f5 -2.68/18]
22...Rxc5 23.Nxc5 Qxc5+ 24.Kg2 d4
[24...Qc2+? 25.Qxc2 dxc2 26.Rc1+-]
25.Ba4 -7.28/20
[25.Qb3? -6.45/19 25.Qb1 -3.63 Qc2+ 26.Qxc2 dxc2 27.Kf2 d3 28.Ke3 Rd8 29.Ba4 b5 30.Bb3 a5-+]
[⌓25.Kh3 -4.04/20 Rf6 26.Qb3]
25...Qc3? -2.82/21

[25...b5 26.Bb3 a5-+ -3.43/20 *(⌓26...Qc3 -7.30/23 27.Qh5 e3)*]
[25...b5 -7.28/20 26.Bb3 Qc3]
26.Qg4? -7.38/21
[26.Qb1 -2.82/21 e3 27.Bb5]
26...e3 -3.43/22
[⌓26...b5 -7.38/21 27.f5 e3 *(27...bxa4? 28.Qxe4 Qd2+ 29.Rf2-+)*]
27.Qe6? -8.68/23
[27.Rb1 -3.43/22 b5 Promotion 28.Rxb5]
27...Qd2+ -3.72/24
[27...b5 28.Bb3 Qd2+ 29.Kh3 e2 30.Rg1 Qe3-+]
[⌓27...b5 -8.68/23 28.Bd1 Qd2+ 29.Kf3 Qxh2 *(29...e2? 30.Bxe2 dxe2 31.Qxe2-+)*]
28.Kh3 e2 29.Rb1 Qe3 30.Qxe3 dxe3 Endgame KRB-KR **31.Bb5 Rd8 32.Kg2 a6 33.Bxd3 Rxd3** KR-KR. Black is two pawns up. **34.Kf3**



Rd2
[34...Rd1? 35.Rxb7 e1N+ *(35...e1B 36.Rb8+)* 36.Ke2 Rd2+ 37.Kxe1∓]
35.Rxb7?! -7.58/27
[35.a3 b5 36.Rc1? -4.76/24 *(36.Re1* -2.85/24 might work better. *Ra2 37.Kxe3)* 36...h6 37.Kxe3 Ra2-+]
[⌓35.a3 -4.18/25 Kg8 *(35...Rd1 36.Rxb7 e1N+ 37.Ke2∓)* 36.Re1]
35...h6
[35...e1B 36.Rb8+]
36.Rb1 Rxa2 37.Kxe3 a5 38.Kd3



Rb2! Deflection, Promotion **39.Rc1 a4 40.Rc8+ Kh7 41.Re8 a3 42.Kc3 e1Q+** Discovered Attack **43.Rxe1 Rxh2 44.Re5 Rg2 45.Kd4 Rxg3 46.Ra5 Kg6 47.Ke5 Kh5 48.f5 Kh4 49.Ke4 Rg4+?** -1.00/25
[49...Kh3-+ -8.16/26 and Black stays clearly on top. 50.Kf4 Kg2]
50.Ke5∓ Rg3? 0.01/23
[Black should play 50...Rg1-+ -3.25/28 51.Rxa3 Kg5]
51.Ke4!= Kh3 Black is clearly winning. **52.Kf4 Kg2 53.Rc5 Rf3+ 54.Ke4** Black took control after the opening. Weighted Error Value: White=0.85/ Black=0.90 **54...a2**
0-1

115 **C11**
□ **Vidit,Santosh Gujrathi** **2720**
■ **Aronian,Levon** **2729**
SuperUnited CRO Blitz 2024 (11.1)
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.Ne2 Qb6 9.Rb1** -0.08/22
[9.Qc1!± 0.53/20]
9...Be7 0.31/22
[9...f6= -0.08/22]
10.c3± White is slightly better. **10...f6**
[10...0-0 11.h4 f6 12.h5 cxd4 13.cxd4 fxe5 14.fxe5 Ndxe5 15.Nc3 Nxf3+ 16.gxf3 Bf6 17.Ne2 Bd7 18.Rg1 Rae8 19.Qd2 Bh4+ 20.Kd1 Rxf3 21.Bh6 Rf7 22.Bh3 Ref8 23.b4 Kh8 24.Be3 Ne7 25.h6 0-1 Fiorito,J (2411)-Rasti,A (2185) Titled Tuesday intern op 21st Jan Late blitz 2025 (10)]
11.Bf2 0-0 12.a3N
[12.g3 cxd4 13.Nexd4 Nxd4 14.Bxd4 Bc5 15.Bxc5 Qxc5 16.Qd4 fxe5 17.Qxc5 Nxc5 18.Nxe5 Nd7 19.Nd3 e5 20.fxe5 Nxe5 21.Nxe5 Re8 22.Kd2 Rxe5 23.Bd3 Bf5 24.Rbe1 Be4 25.Bxe4 dxe4 26.Ke3 Rb5 ½-½ Grischuk,A (2736)-Bluebaum,M (2670) World Rapid Team 2023 (9.3)]
12...a5 0.59/24
[12...Rb8= 0.05/21]
13.Ng3 fxe5 0.92/20
[13...Qd8± 0.39/22]
14.fxe5± cxd4 15.cxd4 a4 16.Bd3 Qa5+ 17.Ke2 0.41/22
[17.Kf1± 1.00/23]
17...Rf7± 18.h4 Nf8! 19.h5 0.01/19
[19.Be3± 0.77/19]
19...h6 0.52/20
[19...b5= 0.01/19]
20.Be3 and Bg6 would now be decisive. Really sharp! **20...Bd7 21.Rf1** -0.40/18
[21.Kf2± 0.46/19]
21...Qb6 -0.01/22
[21...Qa7∓ -0.40/18]
22.Rf2 Na5 23.Kf1 Bb5 24.Ne2 Bxd3 25.Qxd3 Nc4 26.Kg1 -0.38/21
[26.Nd2= -0.01/23 feels stronger.]
26...Nh7 -0.01/21
[26...Nxb2? 27.Qc3+-]
[26...Qb3∓ -0.38/21 27.Qxb3 axb3]
27.Bc1!= Raf8 28.b3? -2.63/20
[28.Nc3= -0.01/19]
28...axb3? 0.69/23
[28...Nxa3? 29.Bxa3 *(29.bxa4? Qxb1 30.Qxb1 Nxb1-+)* 29...Bxa3 30.bxa4+-]
[28...Nxe5-+ -2.63/20 29.Nxe5 *(29.dxe5 Bc5± Pin)* 29...Rxf2]
29.Qxb3 -0.97/22
[29.Rxb3± 0.69/23 was the only good move. Qc6 30.Kh1]
29...Qa5 -0.01/18
[29...Qa7∓ -0.97/22 30.Rf1 Nxe5 *(30...Nxa3 31.Ra1±)* 31.Qxb7 Nxf3+ *(31...Bxa3? 32.Qxa7 Nxf3+ 33.Rxf3+-)* 32.Rxf3 Qa5 33.Rxf7 Qe1+ *(33...Rxf7 34.Qc8+ Nf8 35.Qc3∓)* 34.Kh2 Rxf7 *(34...Kxf7 35.Ng3=)* 35.Qb8+ Nf8]
30.Qc3? -1.77/21
[30.Qd3!= -0.01/18]
30...Ng5? -0.12/22
[30...Bxa3? 31.Qxa5 Bxc1 32.Qa7+-]
[30...Qxc3-+ -1.77/21 31.Nxc3 b6 *(31...Nxa3 32.Bxa3 Bxa3 33.Nb5±; 31...Bxa3 32.Bxa3 Nxa3 33.Rb6∓)*]
31.Qxa5! Nxa5 32.Bxg5 -1.05/27
[32.Rb5= -0.15/22 Bd8 33.Bd2 *(33.Bxg5 hxg5 34.Rf1 Nc4∓)*]
32...Bxg5 -0.27/23

[32...hxg5∓ -1.05/27 33.Rff1 Nc4 *(33...Bxa3 34.Nxg5 Rxf1+ 35.Rxf1±; 33...g4 34.Nh2=)* 34.Rxb7 Ne3 *(34...g4 35.Nh2=)*]

33.Rff1 Be3+ 34.Kh2! Rf5 -0.05/22

[34...Nc4∓ -0.57/24]

35.Ng3 Bf4 36.Kh3 Bxg3 37.Kxg3 Rxh5 38.Rb6 Nc6 39.Rfb1 -0.36/24

[White should try 39.Rc1!= 0.14/22]

39...Ra8∓ 40.R1b3 Rf5 41.Rxb7 Na5 -0.01/19

[41...Ra4∓ -0.55/23]

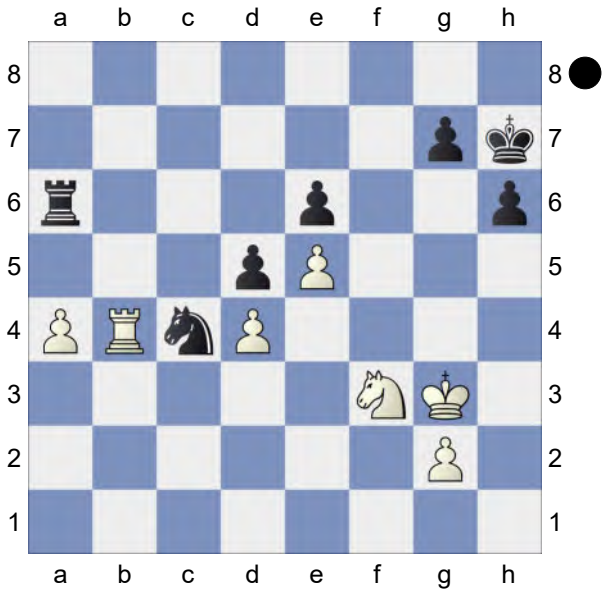
42.Rb8+= Rf8 43.Rxa8 Rxa8 Endgame KRN-KRN **44.Rb6 Kf7 45.a4 Nc4 46.Rb7+ Kg6 47.Nh4+ Kh7 48.Rb4** -0.95/24

[48.Re7= -0.12/23 keeps the balance.]

48...Ra6 -0.45/24

[48...Ra7∓ -0.95/24 49.Nf3 Ra6]

49.Nf3∓



Nb6 -0.39/22

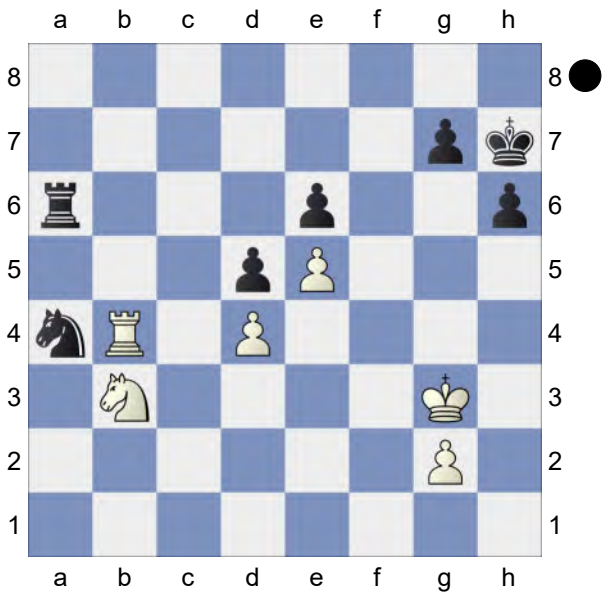
[Better is 49...g5!∓ -0.90/22 50.Ne1 Kg6]

50.Nd2 -1.14/26

[50.Ng1!∓ -0.39/22]

50...Nxa4∓ 51.Nb3!

(Diagram)



Nc3 0.01/22

[51...g5!∓ -1.17/23 Strongly threatening ...h5. 52.Rb8 Kg6]

52.Nc5= The position is equal. **52...Rc6 53.Kf3** Repels Ne2 **53...Kg6 54.Rb3 Ne4 55.Nxe4 dxe4+ 56.Kxe4** KR-KR **56...Kf7 57.Rb7+ Kf8 58.g4 Ra6 59.Rd7 Rb6 60.Ra7 Rc6 61.Rb7 Ra6 62.Rc7 Rb6 63.Rd7 Ra6 64.Rb7 Rc6 65.Ra7 Rb6 66.Kd3 Rc6 67.Rb7 Rc1 68.Rb6 Kf7 69.Rb7+ Kf8 70.Rb6 Kf7 71.Rb7+** Weighted Error Value: White=0.36/Black=0.35 **71...Kf8**

½-½

116 **C11**

□ **Karjakin,Sergey** **2720**

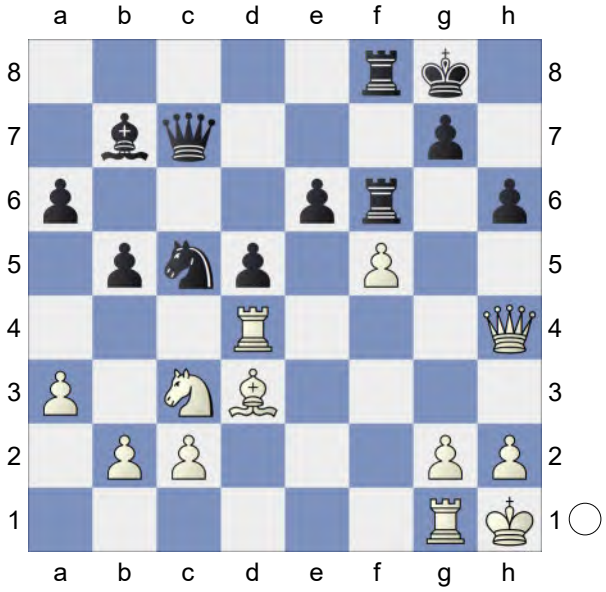
■ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2810**

Corus A Wijk aan Zee NED (10) 27.01.10

[Kitty Kat]

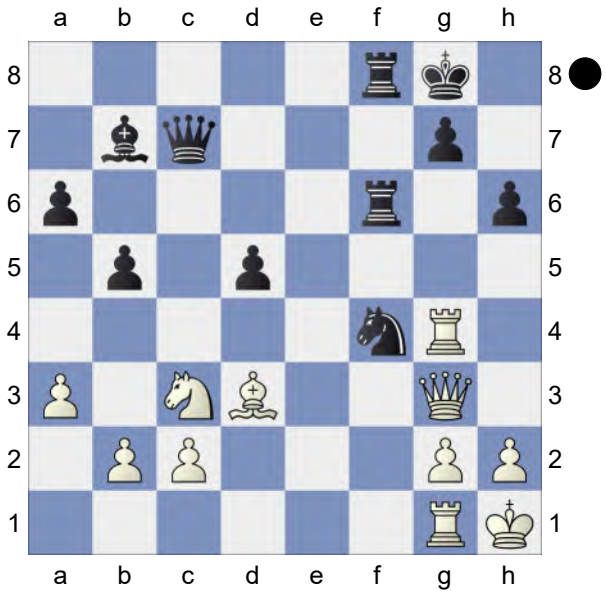
C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Be7 8.Qd2 0-0 9.Be2 a6 10.0-0 b5 11.Kh1** White has an edge. **11...Qc7 12.a3 Bb7 13.Rad1** -0.24/19

[⩲13.dxc5 0.16/20 Nxc5 14.Rad1]
13...Rac8 14.Qe1 cxd4 15.Nxd4 Nxd4 16.Bxd4 Bc5! 17.Qh4 -0.63/20
[17.h3= -0.04/17]
17...Bxd4∓ 18.Rxd4 f6! White is on the road to losing. **19.Bd3** -1.36/20
[19.exf6∓ -0.52/17 Rxf6 20.Rdd1]
19...h6∓ 20.exf6 -1.35/21
[⩲20.Qg4 -0.92/19 Qb6 21.Nxd5 exd5 *(21...Qxd4 22.Qxe6+ Rf7 23.Bg6± Pin; 21...Bxd5 22.Rxd5 exd5 23.Qxd7=)* 22.Qf5]
20...Rxf6 21.f5 -1.91/19
[21.Rg1∓ -1.21/17]
21...Rcf8-+ 22.Rg1 -2.26/20
[22.Nd1∓ -1.60/17]
22...Nc5
[Not 22...exf5 23.Nxd5 Bxd5 24.Rxd5∓]



23.fxe6 Nxe6 24.Rg4 -2.95/19
[⩲24.Nxd5 -1.78/20 Bxd5 25.Rxd5]
24...Nf4 ...Re6 is the strong threat.
25.Qg3 -3.08/19
[25.Ne2 -2.04/19 keeps fighting. Nxe2 26.Bxe2]

(Diagram)



25...Qe7! 26.Rxf4? -4.52/19
[26.h3 -2.82/20 d4 27.Ne2 Nxe2 28.Bxe2]
26...Rxf4 27.Ne2 Rf1 Black is clearly winning. **28.Nd4 Rxg1+ 29.Kxg1 Re8 30.h4 Qe1+ 31.Kh2 Qxg3+ 32.Kxg3** Endgame KRB-KBN **32...Kf7 33.Kf2 Kf6 34.g3 Bc8 35.c3 Bg4 36.Bc2 g5 37.hxg5+ hxg5 38.Bb3 Ke5 39.Bc2 Rf8+ 40.Kg2 Bd7 41.Nf3+ Kf6 42.Bb3 g4 43.Nd4 Ke5 44.Bc2 a5 45.Bd1 Ke4 46.Be2N** Weighted Error Value: White=0.73/Black=0.10 (very precise) **46...Ke3**
0-1

117 **C11**
□ **Nepomniachtchi,Ian** **2718**
■ **Ding,Liren** **2680**
8th RUS-CHN Summit Men Classical (5)
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.Qd2 b5 9.Nd1 Be7**
[9...b4 10.Nf2 a5 11.Bb5 Qb6

12.Bxc6 Qxc6 13.0-0 Ba6 14.Rfc1 Be7 15.c3 bxc3 16.Rxc3 c4 17.Rc2 0-0 18.Ng4 Rab8 19.Ng5 h6 20.Qf2 hxg5 21.fxg5 Qc7 22.Qh4 Qd8 23.Rf1 Re8 24.Rf3 1-0 Andreikin,D (2729)-Domalchuk Jonasson,A (2366) Titled Tuesday intern op 24th Sep Late blitz 2024 (1)]

10.Bd3 c4N

[10...b4 11.0-0 c4 12.Be2 a5 13.a3 bxa3 14.bxa3 a4 15.Nc3 Ra5 16.g4 h5 17.h3 Nf8 18.Qe1 Ng6 19.Qg3 Nh4 20.Nxh4 Bxh4 21.Qg2 hxg4 22.hxg4 Be7 23.Bf3 Na7 24.Rfb1 Bd7 25.g5 ½-½ Alekseenko,K (2668)-Vitiugov,N (2728) (ch) 141/96 Russia 2019 Nb5 26.Nxb5 Rxb5 27.Rxb5 Bxb5 28.g6 f5 29.exf6 Bxf6 30.f5 exf5 31.Rb1 Bc6 32.Bf4 Bxd4+ 33.Kf1 Qh4 34.Qd2 Bc5 35.Rb8+ Kd7 36.Rxh8 Qxh8 37.Bxd5 c3 38.Qd3 Qf8 39.Bf3+ Bd6 40.Bxc6+ ½-½ Brodsky,M (2668)-5.f3 c6 6. ♕d2 b5 (2728) British CC Ch 1992 Kxc6 41.Qxc3+ Kb7 42.Bxd6 Qxd6 43.Qxg7+ Ka6 44.Ke2 Qe6+ 45.Kd2 Qd6+ 46.Ke2 Qe6+ 47.Kf2 Qb6+ 48.Kf3 Qc6+ 49.Kg3 Qd6+ 50.Kh3 Qxa3+ 51.c3 Qd6 52.Qf7 Qf4 53.Qe6+ Kb7 54.Qe7+ Kc6 55.Qf6+ 6 Chapter C00-Games Chapter C00 Game]

11.Be2 White is slightly better. **11...Qa5** 0.74/20

[11...b4= 0.28/20]

12.c3± b4 13.0-0 Nb6 1.03/17

[13...Rb8± 0.59/17]

14.Bf2 0.44/18

[14.cxb4± 1.03/17 Bxb4 15.Qc1]

14...Rb8 15.Bh4 0.04/22

[15.h4!± 0.68/17]

15...bxc3= 16.bxc3 Na4 0.68/19

[16...Nxd4= 0.19/21 17.Bxe7 *(17.Qxd4? Bc5-+* Pin *)* 17...Nxf3+ 18.Rxf3 Kxe7]

17.Bxe7 Nxe7 18.Qc1 0.26/19

[18.Rf2± 0.63/19]

18...0-0 0.79/20

[18...Bd7= 0.26/19]

19.Qa3 0.16/19

[19.g4± 0.79/20]

19...Nc6 20.Qc1 Na7 0.80/20

[20...Ne7= -0.01/18]

21.Qe3± Bd7 22.h4 Nb2 1.73/19

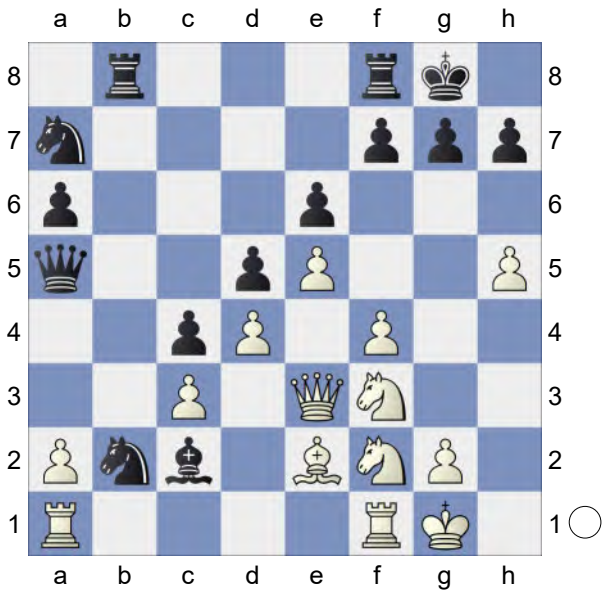
[22...Nb5± 0.57/19]

23.h5!+- Ba4? 3.36/19

[23...h6± 0.91/18]

24.Nf2 Bc2? 4.02/20

[24...h6 2.47/17 keeps fighting. 25.Rac1 Nc8]

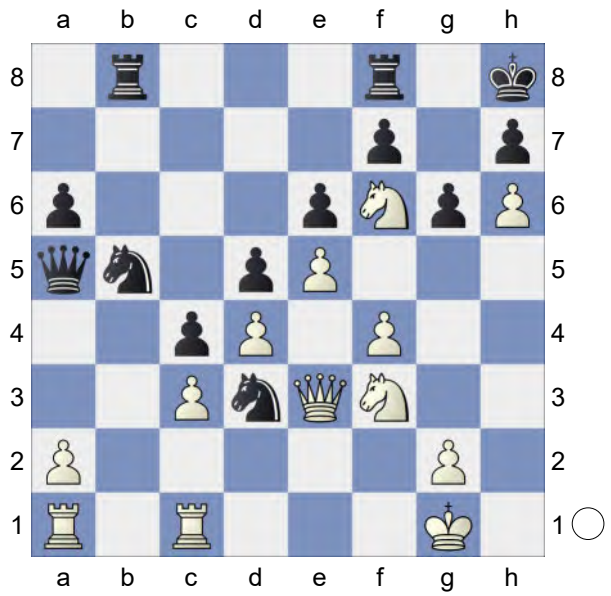


25.h6! g6 26.Ng4 Nb5 27.Rfc1 Bd3 3.92/20

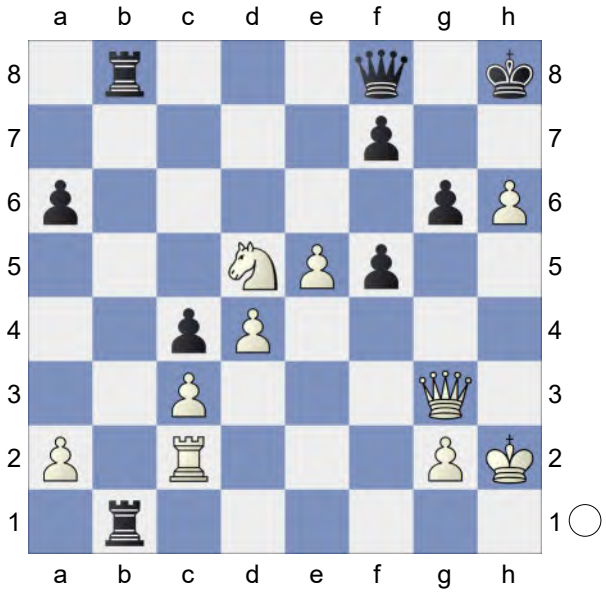
[⌓27...Bf5 2.69/19]

28.Bxd3 Nxd3 29.Nf6+ Kh8

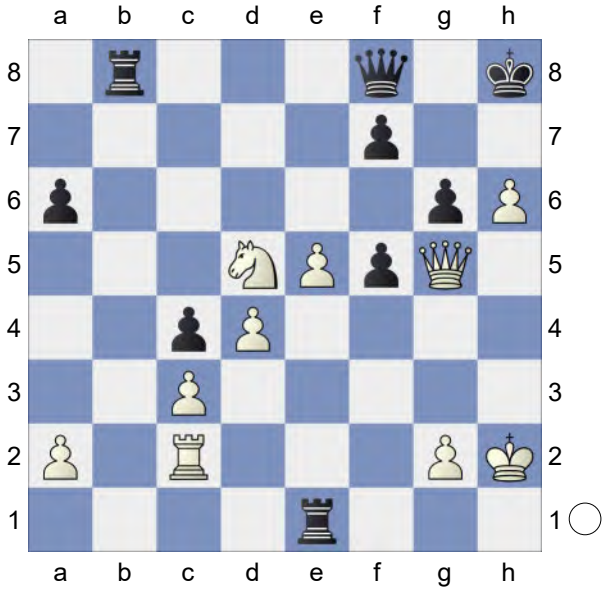
(Diagram)



30.Nd7! Nxc1
[30...Rbc8 31.f5]
31.Rxc1 Qc7 32.Nf6 0.34/21
[32.Nxb8 Rxb8 33.Kh2 Qe7±]
[32.Nxf8+- 5.45/21 Rxf8 33.Kh2]
32...Qe7± 33.Ng5 0.19/19 White is more active. A dynamic duo of knights.
[33.f5!± 1.43/22]
33...Nc7!= 34.Ngxh7 0.05/21
[White should play 34.Nfxh7± 0.60/20 Rfc8 35.Qe2]
34...Rfd8! 35.Qe1 -0.01/23
[35.Qg3± 0.36/20 might be stronger.]
35...Ne8
[35...Rb2 36.Ng5 Ne8 37.Qh4 Rdb8]
36.Nxe8
[36.Qg3 with more complications. Rb2 37.Re1 Rdb8 38.f5]
36...Kxh7 37.Nf6+ Kh8! 38.Rc2 -0.91/23 Against Rb2
[38.Qg3= -0.01/24]
38...Rb5 -0.35/23
[38...Rb7∓ -0.91/23]
39.Kh2∓ Rdb8 40.Qg3 -1.14/25
[⌓40.a4 -0.78/22 Rb1 41.Rc1]
40...Rb1!∓ 41.f5! Deflection **41...exf5**
42.Nxd5 Qf8 0.84/22
[42...Qd8!∓ -1.19/21 keeps the pressure on. 43.Nf6 R8b6]



43.Qg5!± White has strong compensation. **43...Re1** 0.91/19
[43...Qd8= 0.01/20 44.Nf6 Re1]



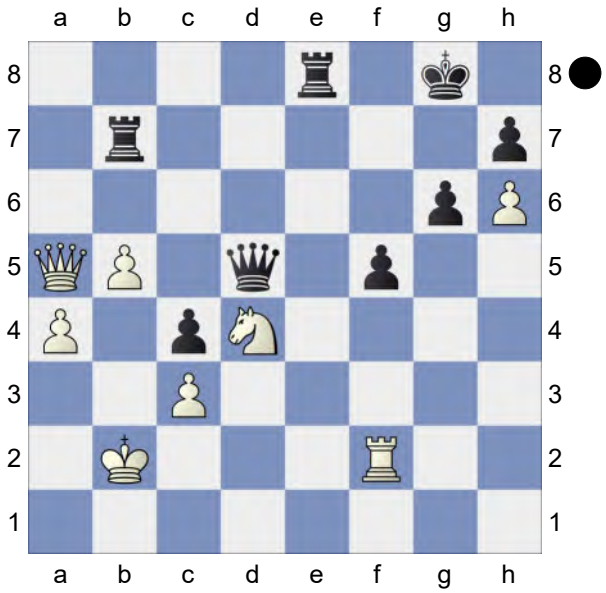
44.Rc1 0.01/22
[44.Rf2!± 0.91/19]
44...Re2 45.Rf1 Qd8⇄ Black has counterplay
[45...Rbb2?! 46.Nf4±]
46.Ne7 Qf6+ would kill now.

[46.Nf6 Rbb2 47.Rg1 Rxa2∓]
46...Qf8!
[46...Kh7?! 47.Rxf5 Qf8 48.Rf3±]
47.Nd5 And now Nf4 would win.
47...Qd8
[47...Rbb2 48.Nf4 Rec2 49.e6+-]
48.Nf6 Rbb2 Strongly threatening ... Rxg2+. **49.Rg1 Rb6**
[49...Rxa2!? 50.Rb1 Rac2∓ *(50...Rxg2+ 51.Qxg2 Rxg2+ 52.Kxg2∓)*]
50.Ne4 Dancing on a razor blade.
50...Qxg5 51.Nxg5 Rb7
[Of course not 51...Rxa2?! 52.Nxf7+ Kg8 53.e6±]
Black escapes into a draw. Weighted Error Value: White=0.37/Black=0.42
52.Rd1 -0.49/23
[52.Rh1= 0.01/25]
½-½

118 **C11**
□ **Nepomniachtchi,Ian** **2718**
■ **Ding,Liren** **2680**
8th RUS-CHN Summit Men Rapid (5)
[Kitty Kat]

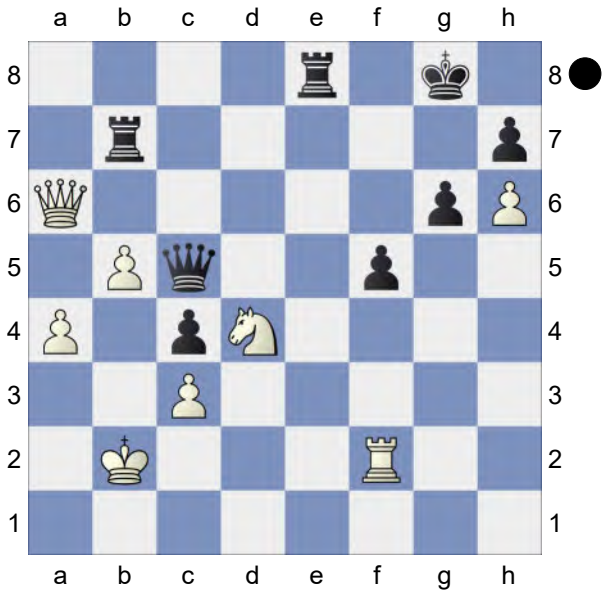
C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 Stoica,V: 'Inf 93/216' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nf3 c5 6.dxc5 Nc6 7.Bf4 Nxc5 8.h4** -0.38/19
[8.a3= 0.01/18]
[8.Bd3 a6 9.Qd2 b5 10.0-0 Be7 11.Ne2 f5 12.Ned4 Nxd4 13.Nxd4 Bd7 14.Kh1 0-0 15.Be3 Qc7 16.f4 g6 17.Qe2 h5 18.h3 Kf7 19.g3 Rh8 20.Kg2 Rac8 21.Rh1 Qb7 22.Rag1 Nxd3 ½-½ Gargantilla,A (2454)-Skarke,H (2510) ROM-chT Romania 1994 (10.2)]
8...Be7N
[8...a6 9.Bd3 b5 10.h5 Qb6 11.0-0 Be7 12.Ne2 Nd7 13.c3 Qc7 14.Ned4 Ndxe5 15.Nxe5 Nxe5 16.a4 bxa4 17.h6 g5 18.Bg3 Bd6 19.Qxa4+ Bd7 20.Bb5 Nc4 21.b3 Nb6 22.Bxd6 Qxd6 23.Bxd7+ 1-0 Johansson,M (2385)-Martin,P (2524) 12/31 Parnu 1971 Nxd7 24.Nb5 Qc5 25.Nd4 Qd6 26.Rfe1 0-0 27.Nf3 f6 28.Qg4 e5 29.Rad1 Rf7 30.Rd2 Kh8 31.Red1 Nb6 32.c4 d4 33.Nxd4 exd4 34.Rxd4 Qc7 35.Qe6 Raf8 36.Rd6 Nc8 37.Rd7 Rxd7 38.Rxd7 1-0 Ionescu,D (2385)-Luther,T (2524) 93/216 Romania 2005]
9.h5 -0.66/17
[9.Bb5= -0.01/16]
9...f5 -0.10/16
[9...0-0∓ -0.66/17]
10.Rh3 -0.96/17
[10.Bd3= -0.10/16 remains equal.]
10...0-0 11.Nb5 Ne4 -0.33/18
[11...Bd7∓ -0.77/18]
12.c3 Qb6 13.Be3 Qa5 14.Nbd4 -1.72/21
[Better is 14.g3∓ -0.48/18]
14...f4-+ 15.Bd2 -2.27/19
[15.Nb3∓ -0.98/19 Qc7 16.Bd4]
15...Qc7! 16.Nxc6 -2.53/19
[⌓16.Nb5 -1.79/17 Qb6 17.Nbd4]
16...bxc6 17.Bd3 Bc5 18.Qc2 Bxf2+
[18...Nxf2 19.Bxh7+ Kh8 20.Rh4±]
19.Kd1? -3.54/20
[19.Kf1∓ -1.42/21]
19...Rb8 -2.09/18
[⌓19...Bb7 -3.54/20 20.c4 c5]
20.b3 -3.07/23
[20.Bxe4 -2.09/18 dxe4 21.Qxe4]
20...c5 21.Bxe4 dxe4 22.Qxe4 Bb7 23.Qe2 Bg3 24.Kc2 -3.82/20
[24.h6 -2.56/18 is a better defense. g6 25.c4]

24...c4 25.Nd4 Bd5 26.b4 a5 27.b5 Qb7 28.Rg1 Be4+ 29.Kb2 Qd5 -2.25/23
[⌓29...a4 -4.42/20 30.h6 Qd5 *(30...Bd3 31.Qf3∓)*]
30.a4 Bd3 This pair of bishops is nice.
[30...Qxe5 31.h6∓]
31.Qf3 Qxe5 32.Rhh1? -4.13/22
[32.h6∓ -1.31/20 was forced.]
32...Be4 33.Qg4 Rfd8 34.h6 g6 Wards off Rh5 **35.Rh5?** -4.73/21
[35.Ka2 -2.39/20 Bf5 36.Qf3]
35...Bf5
[35...Qxh5 36.Qxe6+ Kf8 37.Qf6+ Ke8 38.Qe6+ Kf8 39.Qf6+ Ke8 40.Qe6+ Kf8=]
36.Rxf5 exf5 37.Qf3 Qe4 38.Rf1 Re8 39.Bxf4 Bxf4 40.Qxf4 Qxg2+ 41.Rf2 -3.76/22
[⌓41.Nc2 -2.50/20 Qd5 42.Rd1]
41...Qd5 42.Qc7 Rb7 43.Qxa5



Qc5 0.28/23
[43...Rf7!-+ -3.80/19 44.Qb4 g5]
44.Qa6? -5.55/22
[44.Qb4= 0.28/23 and White has nothing to worry. Qxb4+ 45.cxb4]

(Diagram)



44...Ra7! Skewer **45.Qf6 Qf8?** -1.54/21
[45...Rxa4 46.Qg7#]
[45...Rf8-+ -4.87/20 and Black stays clearly on top. 46.Qe6+ Kh8]
46.Qxf8+∓ Kxf8? -0.11/22 Endgame KRR-KRN
[Black should try 46...Rxf8-+ -2.16/24 47.Ka3 Rfa8]
47.Ka3= Rea8? 2.24/21
[47...Re1∓ -0.48/22 keeps the upper hand.]
48.Ne6++- White has strong compensation. **48...Ke7 49.Nc5** Strongly threatening Kb4. **49...Rb8?** 3.97/22
[49...Kd6± 1.31/19 50.Kb4 Re7]
50.Kb4 Kf6 51.a5! g5 52.b6 g4 53.Kxc4 Re7 54.Ra2? 0.01/21
[54.Rb2+- 4.26/20]
54...g3= 55.a6 f4! Threatens to win with ...f3!.
[55...Rxb6 56.a7+-]
56.b7 The board is on fire.
[56.a7!? Ra8□ 57.Nb3± *(57.b7? Rxb7 58.Ra6+ Ke7-+)*]
56...f3? 4.78/19
[56...Rg8= -0.01/20]
57.a7+- White is clearly winning. **57...f2**

34.42/23
[⌓57...Rexb7 4.38/16 58.Ne4+ *(58.a8B? g2-+; 58.axb8B Rxb8 59.Ne4+ Kf5+-; 58.axb8N? g2-+; 58.axb8Q Rxb8 59.Ne4+ Ke5+-)* 58...Ke5 59.axb8R *(59.a8B? Kxe4 60.Kc5 f2-+; 59.axb8B+ Rxb8 60.Nxg3 Kf4+-)* 59...Rxb8 60.Nxg3 Kf4]

58.axb8Q
[58.axb8R? loses. f1Q+ *(58...f1R 59.Rf8+* Skewer *Kg5 60.b8Q Re3 61.Rxf1 Kh5 62.Qf4 Re8 63.Rh1+ Kg6 64.Ra6+)* 59.Nd3 Rc7+ 60.Kd4 Rd7+ 61.Kc5 Qf5+ *(61...Qxd3? 62.Rf8+ Kg5 63.Rg8+ Kh5 64.b8Q-+)* 62.Kb6 Qe6+ *(62...Qxd3 63.Rf8+ Ke7 64.b8Q∓)* 63.Kb5 Rd5+ *(63...Qxa2 64.Rf8+ Ke7 65.b8Q∓)* 64.Nc5 Qe7 *(64...Rxc5+ 65.Kxc5 Qe5+ 66.Kc6∓)* 65.Ra6+ Kf7-+]

58...f1Q+ 59.Kb4 Qb1+ 60.Ka3 Threatening mate with Qf4+. **60...Qc1+** Weighted Error Value: White=0.64/ Black=0.87 **61.Ka4**

1-0

119 **C11**
□ **Harikrishna,Pentala** **2716**
■ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2864**
Charity Cup Prelim rapid (2.7) 19.03.22
[John Watson,TA]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.Nf3** Harikrishna made this system the main recommendation in his book on playing against the French. **7...Be7**
[A very recent game went 7...Qa5 0.59/19 7...Qb6 0.01 8.a3
A) 8...cxd4 9.b4 Qc7 10.cxd4 b5 11.Nf4 Qb6 0.75/19 *(11...a5±* 0.32/20 *)* 12.Rb1!±;
B) 8...Nxd4!? 9.Nexd4 cxd4 10.b4 0.11/20 *(10.Qxd4; 10.Qxd4±* 0.59/21 *Qb6 11.Qxb6 Nxb6 12.a4)* 10...Qb6 0.76/18 *(10...Qc7!; 10...Qc7=* 0.11/20 keeps the balance.*)* 11.cxd4± Santos Flores,A (2168) -Iskusnyh,S (2473) chess.com INT 2022]

8.a3 0-0! 9.Nf4 This could be called the main line of Harikrishna's system. **9...Qa5! 10.b4!?** I don't see any previous games with this, which would make it that rare beast, the true novelty. It leads to fascinating play, although whatever preparation Harikrishna did soon becomes irrelevant. The position is equal.
[10.Bd3?! is seen in the Archives game Lodici-Haria, along with notes on 10 Be3.]
[10.Ra2 is Harikrishna's own recommendation in his book, to which he devotes 10 pages of analysis. It makes sense to avoid Carlsen's preparation, and theory has developed quite a bit since. We look at 10 Ra2 in some depth in the Archives game Vasquez-Schmakel.]
[What seems to be a drawing line (but worthy of investigation) is 10.Bd2 Qb6 11.Be3 Qxb2 12.Bd3 *(12.Rb1 Qxa3 13.Ra1=)* 12...Qxc3+ *(12...cxd4?! 13.cxd4 Na5? 14.Rb1 Qc3+ 15.Bd2 Qc7 16.h4* with a winning attack was Jobava,B (2588)-Bluebaum,M (2642) Warsaw 2021 *)* 13.Bd2 *(13.Kf1?! Nxd4-+)* 13...Qb2 14.Rb1 Qxa3 *(14...Qa2)* 15.Ra1 *(15.Ra1!? Qb2□ 16.Rb1=)* 15...Qb2 16.Rb1 Qa3
A) but 17.h4 is interesting, e.g., h6

18.Rh3 *(18.Ra1!? Qb2□ 19.Rb1=)*

A1) 18...cxd4!? 19.Ng5 Bxg5 *(19...hxg5 20.Qh5±)* 20.Bh7+ Kxh7 21.Rxa3 Be7-+ *(21...Bxh4 22.Rh3=)*;

A2) 18...Kh8 19.Ng5!? -0.51/28 *(19.Ra1!= 0.01/23 Qb2 20.Rb1)* 19...Nxd4!∓ *(19...cxd4 0.09/24 19...Nxd4 -0.33)* 20.Nxf7+! Rxf7 21.Ng6+ Kg8 22.Nxe7+! Rxe7 23.Bh7+! Kxh7 24.Rxa3 b6! with roughly even material and a totally unclear position;

B) 17.Ra1 , etc.]

10...cxb4 11.Bd3!

[11.cxb4 -1.13/19 11.Bd3 0.01 Bxb4+ 12.axb4 Qxa1 13.Bd3!? allows Nxd4 *(13...g6!? -0.58/20 13...Nxd4 -1.09)* 14.Nxd4 Qc3+ 15.Kf1 -1.56/18 *(⌓15.Qd2 -0.73/20 Qxd2+ 16.Kxd2)* 15...Nxe5!∓ 16.Bc2 Nc6-+]

11...bxc3 12.Qc2

[12.0-0!? -0.43/19 12.Qc2 0.09 might be worth a try. Then

A) 12...Nb6 0.60/17 12...b6 -0.41 13.Qc2 -0.01/20 *(13.Nh5± 0.60/17)* 13...h6 0.63/17 *(13...Qa4= -0.01/20 14.Qxc3 h6)* 14.Qe2 0.06/20 *(Better is 14.Qd1± 0.63/17)* 14...Bd7 0.84/18 *(14...f5!? 0.99/18* 14...Qa4 0.16*; 14...Qa4!= 0.06/20)* 15.Nh5 is unclear;

B) 12...b6!∓ -0.43/19 13.Qc2 g6;

C) 12...Re8 0.25/18 13.Nh5 Qd8 0.46/19 *(13...g6= -0.01/18)* 14.Be3 -0.06/19 *(14.Re1!± 0.46/19)* 14...g6= 15.Nf4 with the idea h4 gives White attacking chances and is not clear (to me or the engine, at any rate).]

12...h6

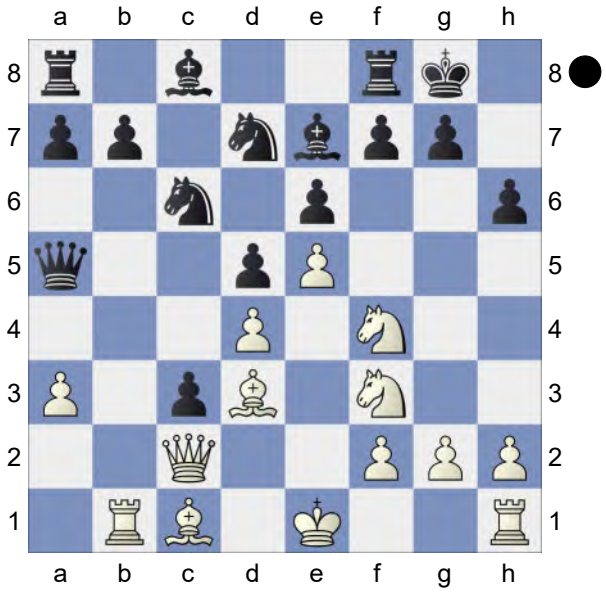
[12...f5 is my engine's recommendation, giving Black some space, but foregoing the chance to attack White's center with ...f6. Then play can goes in a few directions, e.g., 13.Rb1 *(13.0-0 Rf7 14.Ne2!? Nf8 15.Nxc3 Bd7∓)*

A) or 13...a6 14.Rb3 Rf7 15.h4 *(15.g4 Nf8 16.gxf5 exf5 17.Rxc3 Ne6 18.Ne2)* 15...Nf8 16.Rxc3 Bd7 looks fairly solid for Black, but White has more space and at least some compensation;

B) 13...Nb6 14.g4! Qa4! 15.Qxa4 Nxa4 16.gxf5 Nb2! 17.Bxb2 *(17.Bc2 Bxa3)* 17...cxb2 18.Rg1 exf5 *(18...Kh8!?)* 19.Rxb2 Bxa3 20.Rb1 a5 21.Ke2 *(21.Ke2!?)* 21...Rd8 22.Rb5∞]

13.Rb1

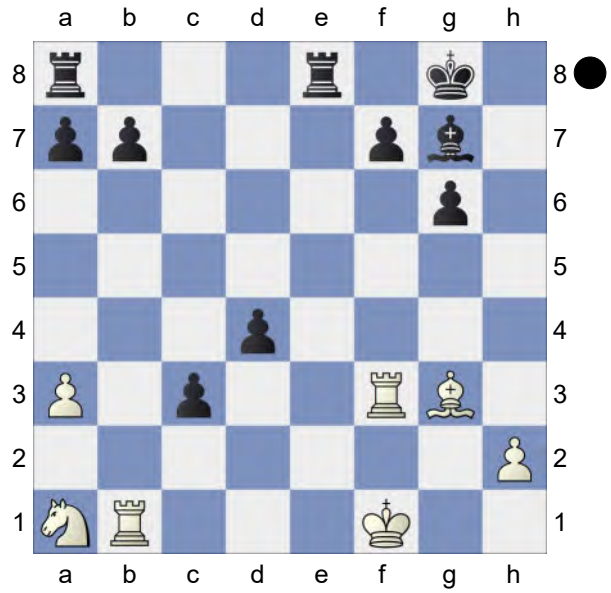
[13.0-0 might be tested in the future. Harikrishna prefers to retain the idea of g4 and Rg1 if Black plays ...f5.]



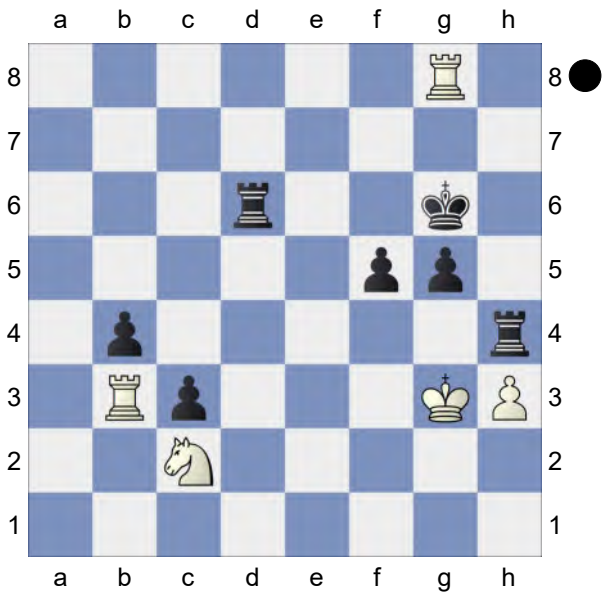
13...Nxd4! A surprising and radical choice, one that Magnus probably thought a good practical way to confuse matters with the Rapids time control.

The engine prefers simply. Deflection
14.Nxd4 Nxe5 Black has four pawns for the piece and a mighty center on the other hand, White's pieces are active and he is way ahead in development.
15.Be2N -1.69/22 This is awfully slow and allows Black to catch up in development and activity.
[15.0-0! gets the last piece out, e.g., Nxd3 *(15...Bd7 16.Rxb7)* 16.Qxd3! with the idea
A) 16...Rb8? 3.88/17 16...e5 0.01 17.Nh5;
B) 16...Bd6? 17.Nh5 Qd8 2.55/19 *(17...Qc7± 1.43/17)* 18.Qxc3+- 1.23/18 *(18.Nb5!+- 2.55/19)*;
C) 16...Bf6 17.Nh5 Qd8 18.f4!;
D) 16...e5!
D1) 17.Rb5 Qa6 18.Nxd5 Bd6 *(18...exd4 19.Nxe7+ Kh8 20.Qxd4 Qxb5 21.Bxh6 f6 22.Qh4 Bf5 #3 7) Classical 5. Nce2-8.a3)* 19.Bxh6! exd4! 20.Nf6+! gxf6 21.f4! Intending Qg3+ and mate. Bg4 22.Qg3! f5 23.Rxf5 Be7! 24.Qxg4+ Qg6 25.Qh3!∞;
D2) 17.Nb3 Qd8! 18.Nxd5 , and Black stands worse unless he finds the computer resource Bh4! *(18...Be6? 1.93/20* 18...Bh4 -0.01 *19.Nxe7+ Qxe7 20.Qxc3+-)* 19.Rd1 Be6∞]
[15.0-0!= 0.01/20]
15...Nc6? -0.01/18 A good practical move. The engine finds the dynamic
[15...Bd7! , which is quite strong: 16.Rxb7 *(16.0-0* -2.52/20 16.Rxb7 -1.34 *Ba4 17.Qa2 Nc6 18.Nxc6 Bxc6∓)* 16...Ba4! 17.Nb3 *(17.Qa2?* -7.64/22 17.Nb3 -1.40 *c2+)* 17...Bd6!∓]
[15...Bxa3 16.Rb5 Qa6 17.Rb3± *(17.Qxc3 Bxc1 18.Qxc1 Bd7=)*]
[15...Bd7-+ -1.69/22 16.Rxb7 Ba4 *(16...Bxa3 17.Nb3=)*]
16.Nb3= A dynamic duo of knights.
16...Qd8 17.Qd3? -2.98/18
[17.Qxc3 e5 18.Nh5! Bf5 looks terrible, but White can fight with 19.Bd3! d4 20.Qc2!
A) 20...e4 0.03/18 20...Bb4+ -0.38 21.Bxe4 Bxe4 0.91/20 *(21...Bb4+!= -0.14/20 22.Kd1 Bxe4 23.Qxe4 Re8)* 22.Qxe4± 0-0 is the strong threat. Bb4+! 23.Kd1;
B) 20...Bb4+! 21.axb4 Nxb4 22.Bxf5 Nxc2+ 23.Bxc2]
[17.Qxc3= -0.07/20 e5 18.Nh5]
17...d4-+ 18.Nh5 e5 19.0-0 -3.35/18
[19.Bxh6 e4! 20.Qg3 g6!-+ 21.Bxf8? -6.48/19 *(21.Bc4* -1.67/17 *Bf5 22.0-0)* 21...Kxf8-+ with the idea 22.Nf4 Bh4]
[19.Bxh6 -2.32/18 gxh6 20.Qg3+ Bg5 21.h4 Pin]
19...g6 20.Ng3 Wards off Bf5
[20.Bxh6 -4.84/17 20.Ng3 -3.10 Bf5]
20...h5
[Or 20...f5! The game has turned decisively in Black's favour.]
21.f4 -3.22/19
[21.Bh6 -2.05/16]
21...exf4 -1.45/18
[21...h4! 22.Ne4 Bf5]
[21...h4-+ -3.22/19 22.Ne4 f5 23.Nxc3 dxc3 24.Qxc3 Bf6 25.fxe5 Bxe5 *(25...Nxe5 26.Bb2-+)* 26.Qc4+ Kh7]
22.Bxf4∓ h4!
[22...Bxa3 23.Bh6∓]
23.Ne4 Bf5
[23...Bxa3 24.Bg5 Be7 25.Bxe7 Qxe7 26.Nxd4±]
24.g4? -3.39/19

[24.Qf3∓ -1.26/17 keeps fighting.]
24...hxg3-+ 25.Bxg3
[25.hxg3 Re8!-+]
25...Qd5
[25...Bxa3 26.Rxf5 gxf5 27.Qf3=]
26.Bf3 Ne5
[26...Bxa3? 27.Bh4∓]
27.Nf6+ -4.81/20
[⌓27.Nxc3 -3.20/18 Qd8 *(27...Bxd3 28.Nxd5 Bd6 29.Bxe5∓; 27...Qxb3? 28.Rxb3 Nxd3 29.Nd5-+)* 28.Qxd4 Nxf3+ 29.Rxf3 Qxd4+ 30.Nxd4 Bxb1 *(30...Bxa3? 31.Nxf5 gxf5 32.Nd5+-)* 31.Nxb1]
27...Bxf6 28.Qxf5 Nxf3+!? -1.40/19
[28...Qd8! 29.Qe4 Re8 is terrifically strong.]
[28...gxf5 29.Bxd5 Rfd8 30.Rxf5 *(30.Bxb7 c2∓; 30.Bxe5 Bxe5 31.Bc4 d3∓)* 30...Rxd5 31.Rxf6∓]
[28...Qd8-+ -4.70/20 29.Qe4 Re8]
29.Qxf3∓ Qxf3 30.Rxf3 Bg7 31.Na1 Rfe8 32.Kf1



Rad8! 33.Rd1 -2.14/23
[33.Rd3∓ -1.32/23]
33...b5 34.Nc2 a5↑ Black has strong initiative. **35.Bf2 Rb8?** -0.27/20
[35...Bf8! -0.65/24 35...b4 -1.59]
[35...b4∓ -1.54/26 36.axb4 axb4 37.Nxb4 Rb8]
36.Bxd4= b4 37.axb4 axb4 38.Bxg7 Kxg7 39.Na1? -4.90/23
[39.Rb1! b3 40.Rxc3]
[39.Rb1∓ -0.31/25]
39...Ra8? -0.33/26
[39...Red8!]
[39...Red8-+ -4.90/23 (→ ...c2) 40.Rb1 Rdc8 *(40...Rd2 41.Rf2-+)*]
40.Rf2 -5.78/24
[40.Nc2! b3 41.Rxc3]
[40.Nc2!∓ -0.33/26]
40...f5? -0.78/23
[40...Red8!]
[40...Rec8-+ -5.78/24 is more deadly. 41.Kg2 Rc7]
41.Nb3 -1.88/21
[41.Rb1∓ -0.78/23]
41...Re3 -1.13/21
[41...Re4-+ -1.88/21 42.Rd4 Ra3 *(42...Rxd4 43.Nxd4 Ra1+ 44.Ke2∓)* 43.Rd7+ Kh6]
42.Rb1∓ Rc8?! -0.38/25 Black is more active.
[42...Rd8∓]
[42...Re4∓ -1.29/25 Hoping for ...Rc4. 43.Rc2 Rf4+ 44.Kg2 Rg4+ 45.Kf1 Rf4+]
43.Nd4 Rc4 Black has compensation.
44.Nc2= Ree4 45.Re2 Rh4 46.Kg2 Kf6 47.h3 Kg5 48.Kh2 Kf6 49.Kg3 g5 50.Rbe1 Rc6 51.Rb1 Rb6 52.Rb3 Kg6 53.Re8 Rd6 54.Rg8+? -4.32/22
[54.Rxb4! Rd3+ 55.Kg2 -0.69/23 *(55.Kf2!=* -0.16/24 *)* 55...Rd2+∓ 56.Kg1! Rxc2 -0.01/19 *(* Black should play *56...Rxb4∓* -0.81/22 *57.Nxb4 c2 58.Nxc2 Rxc2)* 57.Rb6+= Kf7 58.Rbe6!=]
[54.Rxb4= -0.17/25 and White stays safe. Rd3+ 55.Kf2]

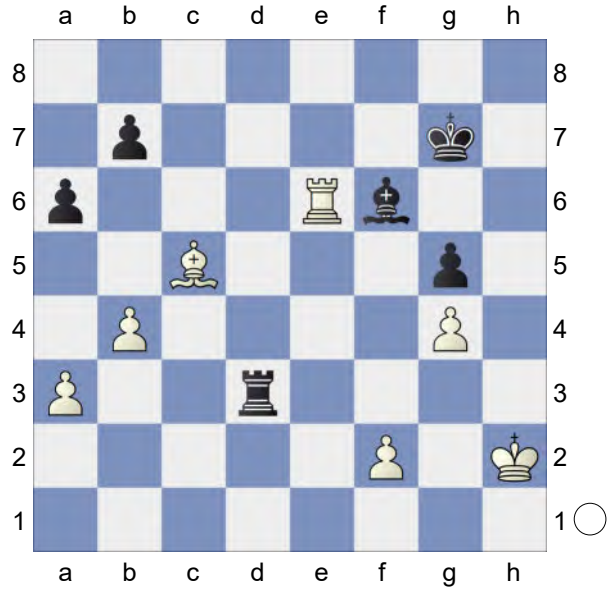


54...Kf6!-+ 55.Rf8+ Ke6 56.Re8+ -8.14/23
[⌓56.Nxb4 -4.19/21 f4+ 57.Kg2]
56...Kf7 57.Re2 Rd3+ 58.Kg2 f4 59.Rf2 Rdxh3 60.Nxb4 Rg3+ 61.Kf1 Weighted Error Value: White=0.94/Black=0.56 **61...Rh1+**
0-1

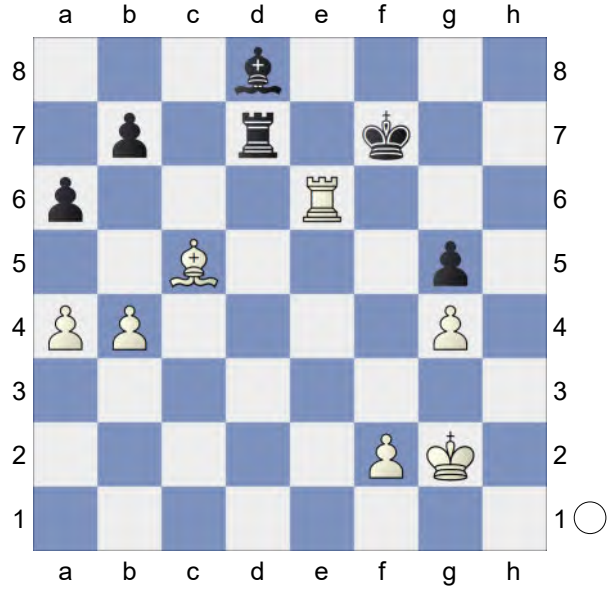
120 **C06**
□ **Polgar,Judit** **2710**
■ **Korchnoi,V.** **2558**
Gibraltar Open (10.9) 02.02.2012
[Kitty Kat]

C06: French Tarrasch: 3...Nf6 4 e5 Nfd7 5 Bd3 main lines Ulibin,Mikhail; Lisenko, A: 'Ulibin,M; Lisenko,A: 'Inf 71/281'' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 cxd4 7.cxd4 f6 8.exf6 Nxf6 9.Nf3 Nc6 10.Nc3 Bd6 11.Bd3 0-0 12.0-0 Qe8N**
[12...Bd7 13.Re1 Ng4 14.Nb5 Bxh2+ 15.Nxh2 Nxf2 16.Qd2 Qh4 17.Re3 a6 18.Nf3 Rxf3 19.Rxf3 Nxd3 20.Qxd3 axb5 21.Bf4 Be8 22.Bd6 Bg6 23.Raf1 Bf5 24.Bc5 h6 25.Rxf5 exf5 26.Qxf5 Qg5 27.Qe6+ 0-1 Novgorodskij,V (2390)-Ulybin,M (2535) 71/281 Kstovo 1997]
[12...e5 13.dxe5 Nxe5 14.Be2 Bb8 15.Bg5 Qd6 16.g3 Ne4 17.Nxe4 dxe4 18.Nxe5 Qxe5 19.Qd2 Bc7 20.Bf4 Qa5 21.Qxa5 Bxa5 22.Bc4+ Kh8 23.Bd5 Bh3 24.Rfd1 Rae8 25.Bxb7 Bb6 26.Re1 Re7 27.Bd5 1-0 Rizouk,A (2519)-Martin Perez,J (2197) Coria del Río IX op 2003 (4)]
13.Re1 Qh5 14.Be2 0.01/18
[14.h3⩲ 0.43/19]
14...Qg6 0.41/18
[14...Bd7= 0.01/18]
15.Ng5 -0.05/19
[15.h3⩲ 0.41/18]
15...h6= 16.Bd3 Qe8
[16...Qh5 is more complex. 17.Qxh5 Nxh5 18.Nxe6 Re8]
17.Nf3 Qh5 18.h3 Dodges Ng4
18...Bd7 19.a3 g5! 20.Nb5 Bb8 Threatens to win with ...g4. **21.Qc2 Kg7** 0.40/19 Repels Bg6
[21...Qf7= 0.01/20]
22.Ne5⩲ Nxe5 23.dxe5 Ne4 Deflection
24.Bxe4 Bxb5 25.Qb3 -0.01/23
[25.a4!⩲ 0.46/21 feels stronger.]
25...dxe4 1.17/20
[25...a6!= -0.01/23 26.a4 Bc4]
26.Qxb5± Qf7 27.Be3 Active counter play!
[27.Rxe4 Qxf2+ 28.Kh2 Rf7∓]
27...a6 28.Qb4 Bxe5 29.Qxe4 Bf6 30.Rad1↑ 0.85/21 White has strong initiative.
[⌓30.Rac1 1.22/24]
30...Rad8 31.Bc5 Rfe8 32.Rxd8 0.95/24
[32.b4 1.39/23]
32...Rxd8 33.Qxe6 Qxe6 34.Rxe6 Endgame KRB-KRB. White is a pawn up. **34...Rd5** 2.24/22

[34...Bxb2± 0.76/24 35.Re7+ Kg8]
35.b4+- Rd1+ 36.Kh2 h5 37.g4 1.23/22
[White should try 37.g3+- 2.22/22]
37...hxg4± 38.hxg4 Rd3? 3.36/22
[38...Bd8± 1.46/23 39.Kg2 Kf7]



39.a4!+- Kf7 40.Rb6 Rd7 41.Kg2 Bd8 42.Rh6 Kg7 43.Re6 Kf7



44.Re5 Bf6 45.Re3 Black must now prevent a5. **45...Bd8?** 4.37/21
[45...a5 2.25/22 was worth a try. 46.Re4 *(46.bxa5 Rc7±)* 46...axb4]
46.a5 Rd5 47.Kf3 Bf6 48.Ke4 Threatening mate with Rd3!. White is clearly winning. **48...Ke6 49.Rh3 Rd7 50.Rh1 Kf7 51.Rh7+ Bg7 52.Rh3 Ke6 53.Rd3 Rxd3 54.Kxd3** KB-KB. White is a pawn up. **54...Kd5 55.Be7 Bh6 56.f3 Ke6 57.Bc5 Bg7 58.Be3 Bf6 59.Kc4 Kd6 60.f4 gxf4 61.Bxf4+ Ke6 62.g5 Bd8 63.Be3 Bc7 64.g6 Kf6 65.Kd5 Bg3** Weighted Error Value: White=0.16 (very precise) / Black=0.48 **66.Bc5**
1-0

121 **C11**
□ **Motylev,Alexander** **2704**
■ **Ding,Liren** **2565**
TCh-CHN Shanghai CHN (8) 25.07.2010
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 How do you break down the solid French pawn structure? This game could give you a few ideas. **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.Qd2 b5 9.Bd3 b4** And now ...cxd4 would win. **10.Na4 cxd4N** 0.65/20
[10...c4= 0.10/20 11.Be2 c3 12.Qd1 *(12.Qc1 cxb2 13.Qxb2 Qa5 14.Qb3 Qc7 15.c3 Na5 16.Qc2 Rb8 17.0-0 Be7 18.Rab1 0-0 19.Bd3 g6 20.g4 Nb6 21.f5 Nac4 22.cxb4 exf5 23.gxf5 Nxa4 24.Bh6 Qc6 25.e6 Bb7 26.Qg2 Kh8* 1-0 Wohl,R (2729)-Remgelter (2630) EU/FSM/43 corr ICCF 1986 (8)) 12...cxb2 13.Nxb2 Be7 *(13...a5 14.0-0 Nb6 15.g4 h5 16.gxh5 Ne7 17.Nh4 Nf5 18.Nxf5 exf5 19.Rf2 a4 20.Rb1 Rh6 21.Bd2 Ba6 22.Nd3 Bc4 23.Nxb4 Bxe2 24.Qxe2 Nc4 25.Be1 Rb8 26.Qf3*

Rb5 27.Rg2 Qb6 28.c3 ½-½ Rodshtein,M (2614)-Apicella,M (2506) 149/87 France 2021*)* 14.0-0 0-0 15.Bd3 f5 16.g4 a5 17.gxf5 exf5 18.Qe2 Nb6 19.Kh1 a4 20.Rg1 a3 21.Nd1 Na4 22.Rg3 Rf7 23.Qg2 Nc3 24.Nxc3 bxc3 25.Bb5 Qb6 1. Steaming Down the Open Fil-Wei Yi Vs Vladimir Potkin,T]

11.Nxd4± Bb7 White is slightly better.

12.Qf2 Be7! 13.0-0-0 0-0 14.Kb1 Nxd4 0.85/17

[14...a5± 0.39/18]

15.Bxd4± Bc6! 16.Nb6 Nxb6 17.Bxb6 Qd7 1.35/22

[17...Qb8± 0.63/20]

18.f5 exf5 19.Bxf5 Qb7 20.Bd4 0.19/16

[20.Rd3± 1.31/18]

20...Bd7= 21.Rd3 Bxf5 22.Qxf5 Qc6 23.Rhd1 -0.01/20

[23.Rh3± 0.43/20 was preferable. h6 24.Rg3]

23...Rac8⇄ Black has counterplay

24.R1d2 Active counter play! **24...Qe6 25.Qf3**

[25.Rf3 is interesting. a5 26.b3 h6 27.Rdf2]

25...Rfd8 26.b3 h6 27.Bb2 Rc5 0.96/22

[27...Bg5= 0.04/19 keeps the balance. 28.Rf2 Rc6]

28.g3 0.14/19

[28.a3± 0.96/22]

28...a5 0.71/23

[28...Rb5= 0.14/19]

29.a4± g6? 2.04/19

[29...bxa3± 0.52/19 30.Bxa3 Rxc2 31.Kxc2 *(31.Bxe7 Rxd2 32.Rxd2 Qxe7=)* 31...Bxa3]

30.Rf2+- Rd7 2.50/20

[30...Bf8± 1.45/19 31.Qf6 Be7 32.Qxe6 fxe6]

31.Bd4 Rc6 32.Qd1 Bd8 33.Rdf3 0.93/19

[33.h4+- 2.37/19]

33...Qe8± 34.Qd2 0.54/23

[34.Re2± 1.32/18]

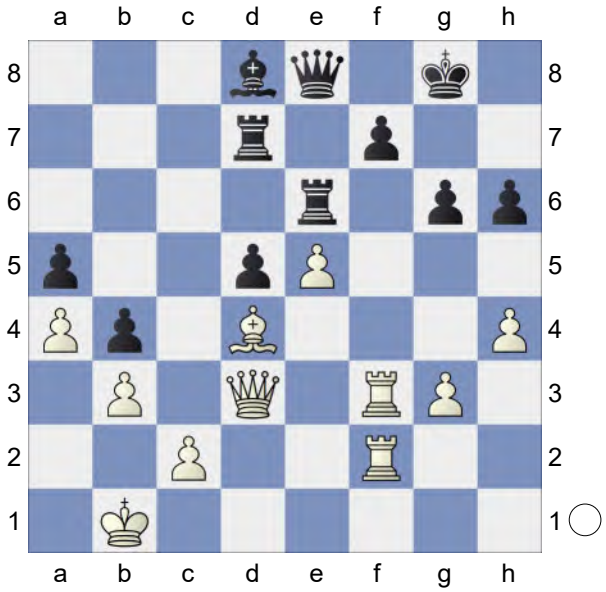
34...Bg5? 2.16/22

[34...Bb6!± 0.54/23]

35.Qd3 Re6? 3.08/22

[35...Bd8± 1.50/22 36.Qb5 Re6]

36.h4+- Bd8



37.h5! g5 38.Ka2? 1.06/22

[38.Qb5+- 2.89/24]

38...Kg7? 2.92/23

[38...Bb6± 1.06/22]

39.Qb5 Kg8 40.Rf5 Bc7 41.Rf6? 0.98/22

[41.g4+- 2.96/23]

41...Bd8? 5.78/23

[41...Rxf6± 0.98/22 is a better chance. 42.exf6 *(42.Rxf6 Bxe5 43.Bxe5 Qxe5±)* 42...Rd8 *(42...Bxg3 43.Re2±)*]

42.R6f5? -0.01/21

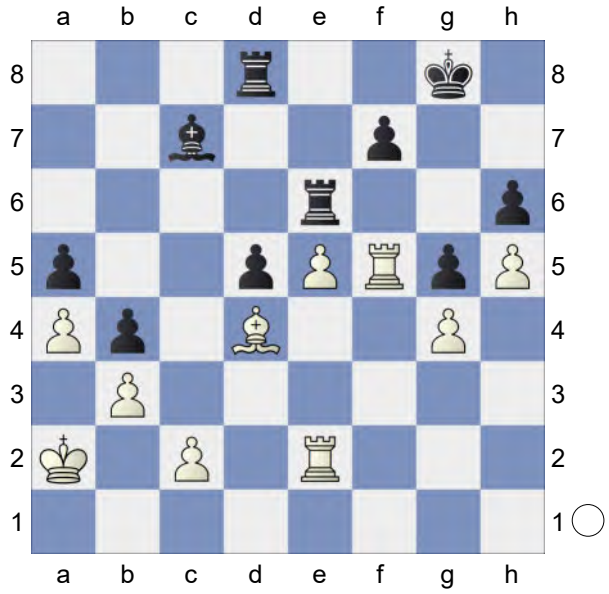
[42.Rxe6+- 5.78/23 Qxe6 43.g4]

42...Bc7!= 43.g4 Bd8 44.R5f3 1.67/20

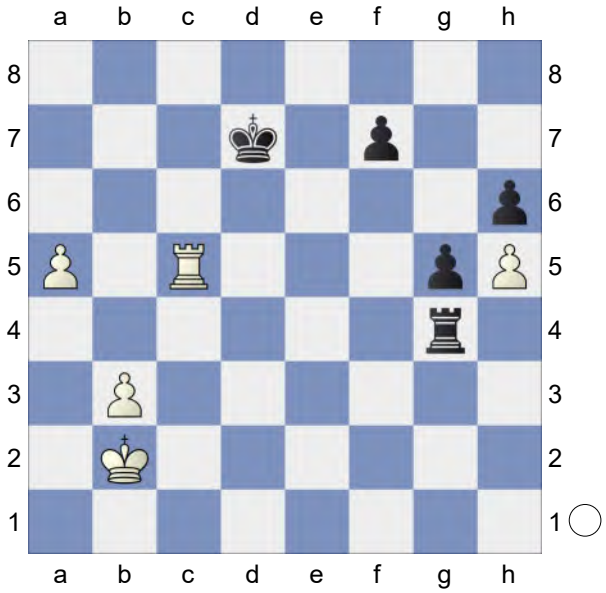
[⌓44.Kb1 3.43/22 And now R2f3 would win. Bc7 45.Rf1]

44...Bc7? 4.06/22

[44...Rc7 1.67/20]
45.Rf6!+- Bd8 4.73/22
[⌓45...Rde7 3.05/23 46.Qxe8+ *(46.Qxd5 Bxe5 47.Bxe5 Rxe5±)* 46...Rxe8]
46.R6f5 2.73/24
[⌓46.Rxe6 4.73/22 Qxe6 47.Qb8]
46...Bc7 47.Rd2? 1.02/22
[47.R2f3+- 2.65/21 has better winning chances.]
47...Rd8± 48.Qxe8+ Rdxe8 49.Re2 0.12/25
[49.Kb2± 1.12/24]
49...Rd8? 2.01/25
[49...f6!= 0.12/25]



50.Ref2!+- Rd7 51.Kb2 0.50/25
[51.Rf6+- 1.75/24]
51...Bd8 1.34/20
[Black should try 51...Rde7± 0.50/25]
52.Rd2 0.47/25
[52.R2f3± 1.34/20]
52...Rc6 1.23/21
[52...Kg7± 0.47/25]
53.Rf3 Kf8 54.c3 0.77/21
[54.Rdf2+- 1.61/22]
54...bxc3+± 55.Bxc3 0.49/22
[55.Rxc3± 1.37/24 Rxc3 56.Kxc3 *(56.Bxc3 Bb6∓)*]
55...Ke7 56.Rf6 0.25/23
[Better is 56.Bd4± 0.84/21]
56...Re6= 57.Bd4 0.24/22
[57.b4± 0.77/24]
57...Ke8! 58.Rf5 Bb6 59.Bxb6! Rxb6 60.Rf6 Rxf6 61.exf6± Endgame KR-KR
61...Rd6 62.Re2+ Kd8? 3.35/22
[62...Kf8= 0.21/23]
63.Re5+- Rxf6? 4.73/26
[63...d4 2.59/21 64.Rxa5 Rxf6]
64.Rxd5+ Kc8 65.Rxa5 Rf4 66.Rc5+ 2.35/23
[⌓66.Ra6 5.04/20 Rxg4 67.Rxh6]
66...Kd7 67.a5? 0.91/22
[67.Kc3+- 2.83/19]
67...Rxg4±

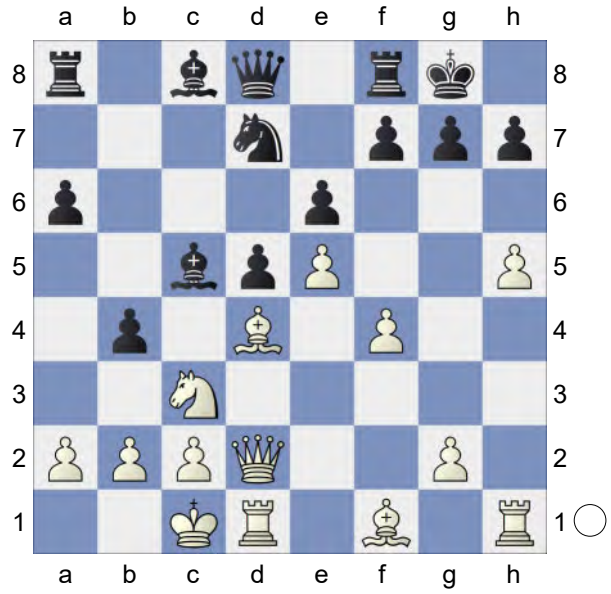


68.a6? 0.43/24
[White has to play 68.Rf5!+- 2.88/20]
68...Re4? 5.70/23
[68...Rg2+!± 0.43/24 69.Ka3 Rg1]
69.Rf5+- White is clearly winning.
69...Re7 70.a7 Re8 71.Rxf7+ Kc6 72.Kc3 Kb6 73.Kd4 Ra8 74.Rh7 g4 7.90/22
[⌓74...Rxa7 5.02/21 75.Rxh6+ Kb5]
Weighted Error Value: White=0.62/

Black=0.50 **75.Ke3**
1-0

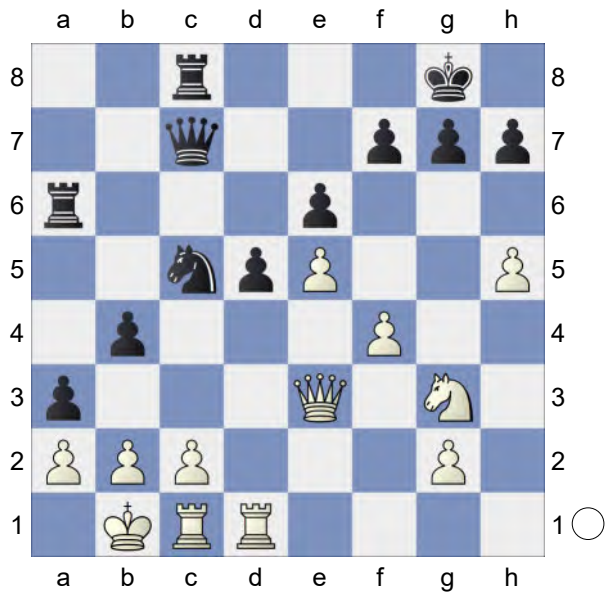
122 **C11**
□ **Topalov,Veselin** **2700**
■ **Morozevich,A.** **2723**
SuperGM It Sarajevo BIH (9) 26.05.1999
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Bc5 9.Qd2 0-0 10.0-0-0 a6 11.h4 Nxd4 12.Bxd4 b5 13.h5 b4**



14.Ne2 -0.21/21
[14.Na4± 0.32/23 Be7 15.Qe3]
14...a5=
[14...Qc7 15.Bxc5 Qxc5 16.Nd4 a5 17.f5 Nxe5 18.h6 g6 19.fxe6 fxe6 20.Qg5 Nc6 21.Nxc6 Qxc6 22.Bd3 Qe8 23.Qe5 Ra7 24.Rh3 Rff7 25.Rdh1 Ba6 26.Bxa6 Rxa6 27.Rf3 Raa7 28.Re1 Rxf3 29.gxf3 ½-½ MacDonald Ross,M (2186)-Carlsen,M (2026) Hampstead IM 1998 (5)]
15.Qe3N -0.43/21
[15.f5= 0.01/18]
[15.Bxc5 Nxc5 16.Qe3 Qb6 17.f5 a4 18.Kb1 b3 19.cxb3 axb3 20.a3 exf5 21.Rxd5 Ra5 22.Nf4 h6 23.Bd3 C 11/26 2000 Be6 24.Rd6 Qb7 25.Rc1 Rc8 26.Qd4 Nxd3 27.Rxc8+ Bxc8 28.Ng6 Kh7 29.Nf8+ Kg8 30.Rd8 g5 31.Qd6 1-0 Smirin,I (2590)-Lputian,S (2610) Rostov on Don 1993]
15...Qc7!∓ Black wants to play ...Ba6. Black is slightly better. **16.Kb1** -0.64/21
[16.Bxc5= -0.12/20 Nxc5 17.Nd4]
16...Ba6 17.Bxc5 Nxc5 18.Ng3? -1.89/19
[18.Nd4∓ -0.38/22]
18...Rfc8 -0.40/19
[18...h6-+ -1.89/19 19.Rc1 Bxf1 20.Rhxf1 Rfd8]
19.Rc1 -1.36/18
[19.h6!∓ -0.40/19]
19...a4 -0.46/23
[19...Bxf1∓ -1.36/18 20.Rhxf1 f6]
20.Bxa6 -0.88/21
[20.h6∓ -0.46/23]
20...Rxa6∓ 21.Rhd1? -2.14/23
[White must play 21.h6∓ -0.49/23]
21...a3

(Diagram)

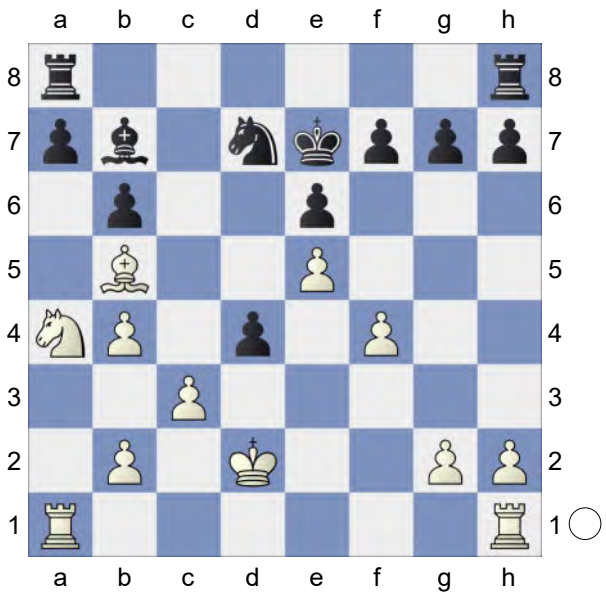


22.b3 Rc6 23.Qd4 Na6 -0.68/20
[Better is 23...h6-+ -2.16/21 and ...Na6 would now be decisive 24.Rd2 *(24.Qxb4?* perishes. *Nd3*-+ Back Rank *)* 24...Qd8]
24.Rd2? -2.44/21
[White should try 24.Qd2∓ -0.68/20]
24...Qe7 25.Qd3? -3.41/23
[25.Qe3 -1.76/20]
25...Qh4-+ 26.Qf3 Rc3 27.Rd3 h6 28.f5? -10.22/22
[28.Ne2 -2.96/24 Rxd3 29.Qxd3]
28...Qg5 29.Qf1 -9.85/24
[⌓29.Ne2 -5.13/22 Rxd3 30.cxd3 Rxc1+ 31.Nxc1]
29...Rxd3 30.Qxd3 Nc5 31.Qf3 Nd7? -2.92/19
[31...Qd2 -8.81/22 32.f6 Qd4]
32.Re1 -11.43/23
[32.Ne2 -2.92/19]
Weighted Error Value: White=1.38/Black=1.00 **32...Qd2**
0-1

123 **C11**
□ **littleplotkin** **2699**
■ **BENED7707** **2747**
Blitz 02.01.2025
[Kitty Kat]

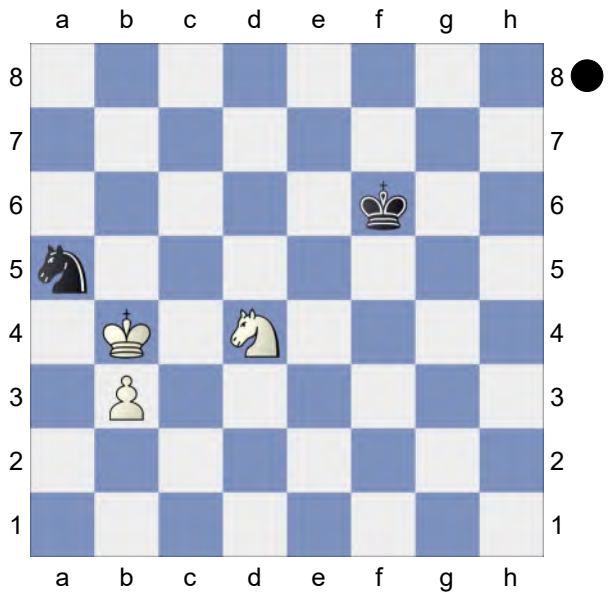
Blitz 3min C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.Nc3 d5 3.d4 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Qb6 8.a3 cxd4 9.Nxd4 Nxd4 10.Bxd4 Bc5 11.Na4 Qa5+ 12.c3 Bxd4 13.Qxd4 b6 14.Qb4 Qxb4 15.axb4 Bb7**
[15...g5 16.Bb5 Ke7 17.fxg5 Rb8 18.Bxd7 Bxd7 19.b3 Rbg8 20.h4 h6 21.g4 hxg5 22.h5 f6 23.exf6+ Kxf6 24.Nb2 Ra8 25.0-0+ Ke7 26.Nd3 Bb5 27.c4 dxc4 28.Ne5 cxb3 29.Ng6+ Kd6 30.Rad1+ 0-1 Voicu Jagodzinsky,C (2218)-Dolzhikova,K (2308) Augsburg op-A (Women) 2025 (3)]
16.Bb5 Ke7 17.Kd2
[17.0-0 Rhd8 18.Kf2 f6 19.Bxd7 Rxd7 20.Ke3 Rf8 21.b3 Bc6 22.Nb2 Bb5 23.Rf3 Kd8 24.Rd1 Ke7 25.Ra1 Rc7 26.Kd4 Be8 27.Re1 Bg6 28.Nd3 Be4 29.Rg3 g6 30.Re2 fxe5+ 31.fxe5 Rf1 ½-½ 11.Nbd2 (2625)-Olsen,J (2580) China (rapid) 154/(154) 2022 (2)]
17...d4N 3.23/17
[17...f6]

(Diagram)



18.cxd4+- g6? 4.49/19
[18...Rhc8 2.80/19 was worth a try. 19.Ke3 g6]
19.Rhc1 Rhc8 Dodges Rc7 **20.g3 h5 21.Rxc8 Rxc8 22.Rc1 Rxc1 23.Kxc1** Endgame KBN-KBN. White is a pawn up. **23...Nb8 24.Kd2 a6 25.Be2 b5 26.Nc5 Bd5 27.Ke3 Kd8 28.Bf3 Bxf3 29.Kxf3** KN-KN. White is a pawn up. **29...Nc6 30.Nxa6 Nxd4+ 31.Ke4 Nc6 32.h3** 1.76/26
[⌓32.Kd3 3.20/25]
32...Kc8 33.g4? 0.23/25
[33.Ke3+- 2.69/24]
33...hxg4= 34.hxg4 Kd8 35.f5 0.26/30
[Better is 35.g5± 1.08/26]
35...gxf5+ 36.gxf5 exf5+ 37.Kxf5 Ke8 38.Nc7+ Ke7 39.Nxb5 Nxb4 40.Nd6 Nd3 41.b3 Nb4 42.Nb5 Nc6 43.Ke4 f6
[43...Na5!?]
44.exf6+ Kxf6 45.Kd5 Nb4+ 46.Kc4 Nc6 47.Nd4 Na5+ 48.Kb4
[48.Kd5!? Nxb3 49.Nxb3=]

(Diagram)



48...Nxb3 Blacks defense is rewarded with a draw. Weighted Error Value: White=0.40/Black=0.40 **49.Kxb3**
[49.Nxb3 Kg7]
½-½

124 **C11**
□ **Kryvoruchko,Yuriy** **2699**
■ **Bluebaum,Matthias** **2670**
European Online CC PlayB rapid (5.1)
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.a3 Qb6** 0.56/23
[8...cxd4= 0.19/19 9.Nxd4 Nxd4 10.Bxd4 Be7]
9.Be2 cxd4 10.Nxd4 Bc5 White has an edge.
[10...Qxb2? 11.Na4+-]
11.Na4! Qa5+ 12.c3 Bxd4 13.Bxd4 Nxd4 14.Qxd4 Qc7 15.b4 0-0 16.0-0 b5 17.Nb2 Nb6N
[17...Bb7 18.a4 bxa4 19.Rxa4 Rfc8 20.Ra3 a5 21.b5 Nc5 22.Rfa1 Rab8 23.Na4 Ne4 24.Bd3 h6 25.c4 Nc5

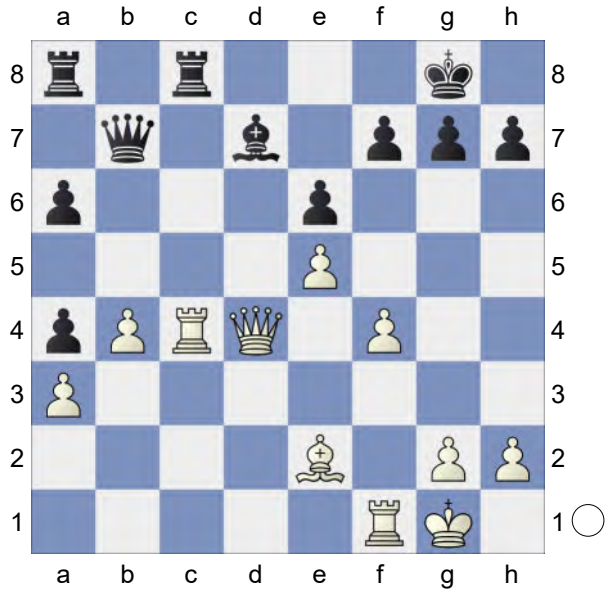
26.Qxc5 Qxc5+ 27.Nxc5 Rxc5 28.cxd5 Rxd5 29.Bf1 Rd4 30.g3 Bd5 31.Rxa5 Rd2 32.Rc1 6 Chapter C00-Games Chapter C00 Game Rb2 33.Raa1 Be4 34.Ra4 Bd5 35.Raa1 Be4 36.Ra4 Bd5 ½-½ Ragger,M (2670)-Vitiugov,N (2731) Prague Masters 2nd 2020 (2)]

18.Nd3 Bd7 19.Rac1 Rfc8 20.Nc5 Na4 0.69/23

[20...Qa7= 0.30/21]

21.Nxa4± bxa4 22.c4 Repels Bb5. White is more active. **22...dxc4 23.Rxc4 Qb7** 0.85/20

[23...Qd8± 0.43/24]



24.Rd1 0.30/21

[White should play 24.Rfc1!± 0.85/20 and Bf3 would now be decisive Rxc4 25.Rxc4]

24...Rxc4 25.Bxc4

[25.Qxc4 Bb5 26.Qd4 Qc7= *(26...Bxe2 27.Qd8+* Back Rank *Rxd8 28.Rxd8#)*]

25...Bc6 26.h4 0.01/19

[26.f5!± 0.68/22 exf5 27.Qd8+ Be8 28.Qd6]

26...h6 0.49/23

[26...Re8= 0.01/19 should be considered.]

27.Rd2 -0.01/21

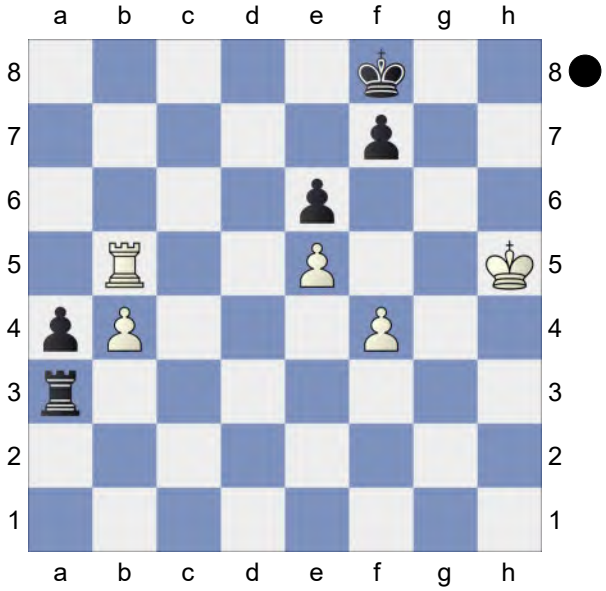
[27.f5± 0.49/23]

27...Bb5= 28.Ba2 Qa7 29.Qxa7 Deflection

[29.Qc5 with more complications. Qb7 30.Bb1 g6 31.h5]

29...Rxa7 Endgame KRB-KRB **30.Rd8+ Kh7 31.Bb1+ g6 32.Rc8 Rd7 33.Bc2** Repels Rd1+ **33...Kg7 34.Kf2 Rd2+ 35.Kf3 h5 36.g3 Rh2 37.Rc3 Kf8! 38.Ke3 Ke7 39.Bd3 Rg2 40.Kf3 Rd2 41.Bxb5 axb5** KR-KR **42.g4 hxg4+ 43.Kxg4 Rg2+ 44.Kf3 Rh2 45.Kg3 Rb2 46.Kg4 Rg2+ 47.Kf3 Rh2 48.Kg3** Wards off Rh3+ **48...Rb2 49.Rc5 Rb3+ 50.Kg4 Kf8 51.h5 gxh5+ 52.Kxh5 Rxa3 53.Rxb5?** -4.26/29

[53.Kg5 -1.65/23 only move.]



53...Kg7? -0.01/27

[Black should try 53...Ra1!-+ -4.26/29 54.Kh6 a3 55.Rb8+ Ke7 56.Rb7+ Ke8 57.Rb8+ Ke7]

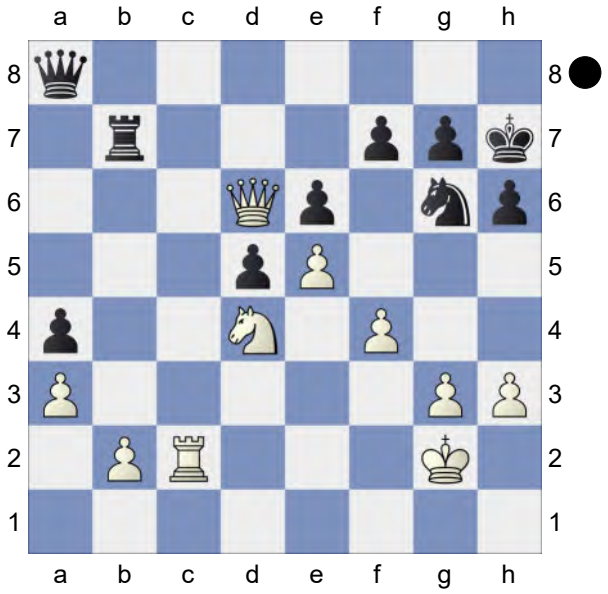
54.Ra5 The position is equal. **54...Ra1 55.b5 a3** and ...a2 should not be

overlooked **56.b6 Rh1+**
[56...a2!? 57.b7□ Rb1=]
57.Kg4 Rg1+ 58.Kf3 Rb1 59.Rxa3 Weighted Error Value: White=0.16 (very precise) /Black=0.22 (precise) **59...Rxb6** ½-½

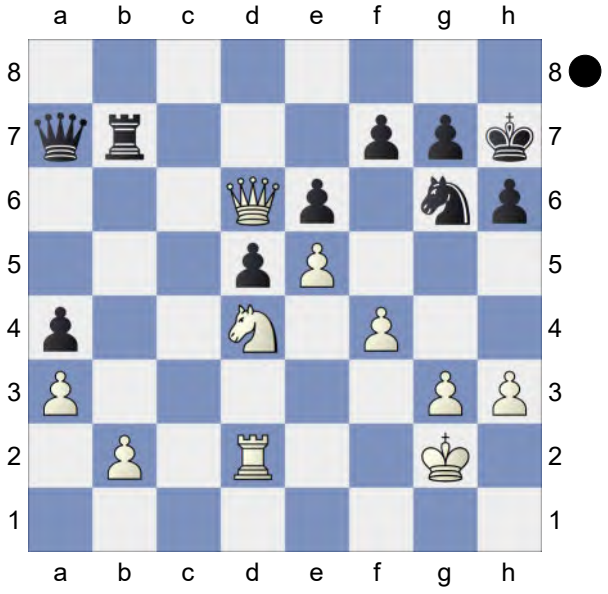
125 **C11**
□ **Ivanchuk,Vassily** **2698**
■ **Akobian,Varuzhan** **2625**
St Louis Spring A (1.3) 02.03.2019
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 ***IVAN'S SHORT CUTS*** THE EARLY g-PAWN ADVANCE - PART II We continue our journey and explore a few more opening variations where the g4 (or g5) pawn advance plays a key role. Some of the lines are still quite fresh, and unexplored, while some others have been tested for a long time in tournament practice. Still, there is plenty of room for improvements and creative play in these variations, so I hope to inspire you to try some of the suggested lines in your own chess duels.
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 0.48/16
[7...Be7= 0.10/17]
8.Ne2± b5 9.c3 b4 10.cxb4! White is better. **10...cxd4 11.Nexd4 Bxb4+ 12.Bd2N** -0.07/21
[12.Kf2± 0.57/21 Nxd4 13.Qxd4 *(13.Bxd4 Ba5 14.Rc1 0-0 15.Be2 h6 16.Rc2 Bb6 17.Bxb6 Nxb6 18.Qd4 a5 19.Rhc1 a4 20.b4 axb3 21.axb3 Bd7 22.Rc7 Rb8 23.R1c3 Re8 24.g3 Re7 25.Rc2 Na8 26.Ra7 Be8 27.Rxe7 Qxe7* Closed Game 1.d4 d5 _2280 2021 *28.Qc5 Qb7 29.Nd4 g6 30.Kf3 h5 31.Bd3 Qb6 32.Qxb6 Nxb6 33.Rc7 Kf8 34.Ba6 Ra8 35.Be2 Rb8 36.h4 Bd7 37.g4 hxg4+ 38.Kxg4 Ke8 39.Kg5 Kd8 40.Rc1 Ke7 41.Rc5 Kf8 42.Rc7 Be8* 1-0 Cloes,D (2293)-Poelvoorde,H (2265) corr BEL/C77 (BEL) 2021 *43.b4 Na8 44.Ra7 Nb6 45.b5 Nd7 46.Rc7 Ra8 47.h5 gxh5 48.Bxh5 Rb8 49.Kh6 Ra8 50.f5 exf5 51.e6 fxe6 52.b6* Closed Game 1.d4 d5-N,N _5569 2021 *)*]
12...Bxd2+!= 13.Qxd2 Nxd4 14.Qxd4 Rb8 0.72/20
[14...a5= -0.01/20]
15.a3± a5 16.Rc1 0.18/23
[16.b4± 0.56/20]
16...a4 17.Be2
[17.Qxa4 Rxb2 18.Bd3 0-0∓ *(18...Rxg2 19.Qb4±)*]
17...Ba6 0.63/22 **18.Bxa6± Qa5+ 19.Kf2 Qxa6 20.Rc7 Qb5 21.Rhc1** 0.26/20
[21.Qa7± 0.69/24 deserves consideration.]
21...0-0!= 22.Kg3! h6 0.83/21
[22...Nb6= -0.01/21 remains equal.]
23.h3 0.12/19
[23.h4!± 0.83/21]
23...Rfd8 0.62/23
[23...Rb7= 0.12/19]
24.R1c2± Nf8 25.Qe3 -0.01/22
[25.h4± 0.62/21]
25...Rd7 Black is weak on the dark squares **26.Rc8 Rd8 27.R8c5 Qe8 28.Nd4 Rdc8 29.Qc3 Rxc5 30.Qxc5 Ng6 31.Qd6 Rb7 32.Kf3** -0.47/22
[32.h4= -0.01/23]
32...Qa8∓ 33.g3 -0.74/22
[33.Kg3∓ -0.32/22]
33...Kh7 -0.31/21
[33...Ne7∓ -0.74/22]
34.Kg2 -1.42/23

[34.Rc7!∓ -0.31/21]



34...Qa7!∓ 35.Rd2 -1.78/22
[35.Qc5∓ -1.16/24]



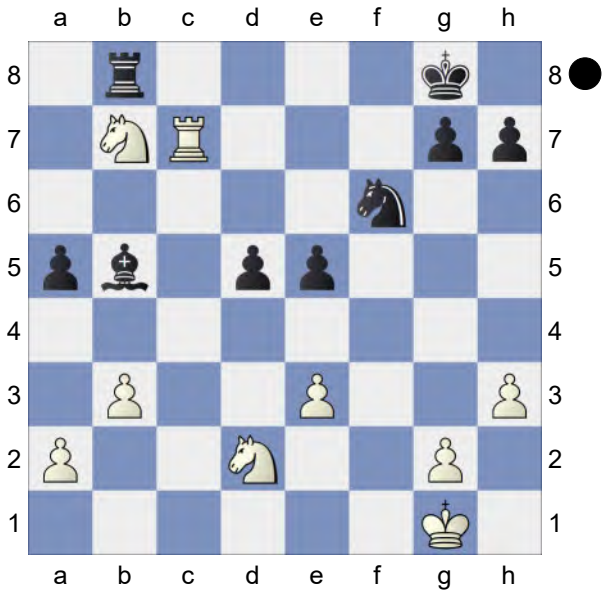
35...Qa5 -0.44/23
[35...Rc7!-+ -1.78/22 36.Rc2 Rxc2+ 37.Nxc2 Ne7]
36.Re2? -2.42/23
[36.Rc2∓ -0.44/23]
36...Ne7-+ 37.g4? -8.19/22
[37.Rf2 -1.94/22]
37...Ng6 38.Kg3 Rb6 39.Qd7 Qc5? 0.01/19
[39...Qa6-+ -9.56/22 aiming for ... Qd3+. 40.Qc7 Qd3+ 41.Nf3 Rb3]
40.Qxa4= Qc1 41.Nf3 Repels Qg1+. and h4 should not be overlooked
41...Rxb2
[41...h5 is interesting. 42.Ng5+ Kh6 43.Nxf7+ Kh7]
42.Rxb2 Qxb2 Endgame KQN-KQN
43.Qb4 Qe2 44.a4 Qe3 45.Qd4⇄ White puts up resistance **45...Qa3 46.Kf2 Qa2+ 47.Kg3 Qa3 48.Kf2 Qa2+ 49.Kg3 Qa3 50.Qa7 Kg8 51.Qa8+ Kh7 52.Qe8 Qe3 53.Qxf7 d4 54.g5?** -6.62/26
[54.Qxe6= 0.01/25 Qxf4+ 55.Kf2 Qe3+ 56.Kg3]
54...h5-+ 55.Qxe6 -#18/26
[55.h4-+ -5.13/24 d3 56.f5 exf5 *(56...Nxe5? loses. 57.Qxh5+ Kg8 58.Qe8+ Kh7 59.g6+ Nxg6 60.Qxg6++-)* 57.Qxf5]
55...h4+ 56.Kg4 Qxf4+
[56...Nxf4 57.Qf5+ g6 58.Qf7+ *(58.Qxf4 Qe2+-)* 58...Kh8 59.Qxf4+-]
57.Kh5 Qxf3+ 58.Qg4 Weighted Error Value: White=0.79/Black=0.29 (precise)
58...Nf4+ Loss on time!?
0-1

126 **C11**
□ **Svidler,P.** **2698**
■ **Erdogmus,Yagiz Kaan** **2626**
Clash of Generations 2 (1.1) 24.07.2025
[Kitty Kat]

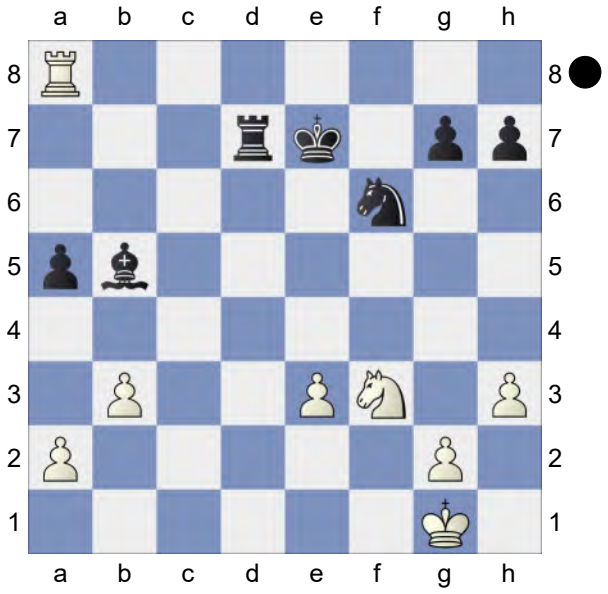
C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.Nf3 cxd4 8.cxd4 f6 9.exf6** 0.12/23
[9.Nf4± 0.53/22]

9...Nxf6= 10.Nc3 Bd6 11.Bb5 -0.01/20
[11.Bd3± 0.37/20]
11...0-0 12.0-0 a6N
[12...Qc7 13.h3 Bd7 14.Be3 a6 15.Bxc6 Bxc6 16.Re1 Rae8 17.a3 Nd7 18.Rc1 Qb8 19.Rc2 Rf5 20.Bc1 e5 21.dxe5 Nxe5 22.Nd4 Rf6 23.Rce2 Ref8 24.Qb3 Nc4 25.Ne4 Rg6 26.Nxd6 Qxd6 27.Qc3 French-6.c3 ♘c6 7. ♘f3 ♗e7_5247 Survey 2020 Bd7]
13.Bxc6 bxc6 14.Bg5 c5 15.dxc5 Bxc5 16.Rc1
[16.Re1 is more complex. Bxf2+ 17.Kxf2 Qb6+ 18.Kg3]
16...Ba7 0.41/21
[16...Bb7= -0.09/21]
17.Be3 -0.01/20
[17.Re1± 0.41/21]
17...Bxe3 18.fxe3 Rb8 19.b3 a5 20.h3 Ba6 21.Rf2 Qe7 0.37/23
[21...h6= -0.01/21]
22.Qd4 Rfc8 0.67/24
[Black should play 22...Rbc8= 0.11/22]
23.Rfc2!± Re8 24.Na4 0.08/21
[24.Ne5± 0.57/22]
24...e5= 25.Qd2 Qb4 26.Rc7 Qxd2 0.54/22
[26...d4= 0.10/24 might be stronger.]
27.Nxd2± Bb5 28.Nc5 Hoping for a4.
28...Rec8 29.Nb7? -3.87/26
[29.Ne6± 0.43/29 stays ahead. Bd7 30.Rxc8+ Bxc8 31.Nc5]
29...Rxc7-+ 30.Rxc7

(Diagram)



Ne8! 31.Re7 Kf8 32.Rxe5 Rxb7 33.Rxd5 Nf6 34.Rd8+ Ke7 35.Ra8 Rd7 36.Nf3



a4 37.bxa4
[37.Nd4 axb3]
37...Bc6 38.Ra6 Bxf3 -2.28/22
[⌓38...Bb7 -4.12/21 39.Ra7 Bd5 40.Rxd7+ Kxd7 *(40...Nxd7? 41.a5-+)*]
39.gxf3 Rd2 40.Ra7+ -2.18/23
[40.a3 -1.81/22 was necessary.]
40...Nd7 ...Kf6! is the strong threat.
41.a3 Ra2 42.f4? -5.40/25

[42.a5∓ -1.31/21 is more resistant.]
42...g6 -2.56/24
[42...Rxa3? 43.Kf2-+]
[⌓42...Re2 -5.40/25 43.h4 Rxe3]
43.a5? -5.68/19
[43.Kf1 -2.56/24]
Weighted Error Value: White=0.67/Black=0.31 **43...Re2**
[Weaker is 43...Rxa3 44.Kf2∓]
0-1

127 **C11**
□ **Alekseenko,Kirill** **2698**
■ **Grischuk,Alexander** **2777**
Candidates Tournament (8) 19.04.2021
[Krasenkow,Michal, TA]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Qb6 9.Qd2 Qxb2 10.Rb1 Qa3 11.Bb5! Nxd4 12.Bxd4 a6 13.Bxd7+ Bxd7** White is slightly better. **14.Rb3 Qe7**
[14...Qa5? 15.Bb6+- *(15.Rxb7 Bb4∓)*]
15.Rxb7 Qh4+ This very popular opening line was examined in several CBM issues, most recently in CBM 161, annotations to Kariakin-Agdestein by GM Mihail Marin. **16.Qf2** White is much more active.
[16.Bf2 0.33/20 16.Qf2 0.82 is the main move, with the common continuation Qd8! 17.Bb6 Qc8 18.Rc7 Qd8! (draw?) 19.Qd4! Dodges Bc5 (not yet!)
A) ≤19...Rc8 0.86/27 19...Ba3 0.16 20.Rc6 Qe7! 21.Rxc8+ Bxc8 22.Kd2 Qb4 1.25/22 *(22...f6* 0.76/22 *)* 23.Rb1± Qxd4+ 24.Bxd4± 1-0 (78) Kokarev,D (2626)-Demidov,M (2516) St Petersburg 2014;
B) 19...Ba3!? 20.Nb1!? Be7 21.c4! Rc8 *(21...Rb8* 0.79/22 21...0-0 0.15 is possible, too*)* 22.Rb7! Bb4+! 23.Kf2 Qxb6! 24.Rxb6 Bc5 25.Rd1 , and now probably the best 0-0! 26.cxd5 exd5 27.Rxa6 Bf5 28.Qxc5 Rxc5 29.Nd2 Rc2⩲ 0-1 (39) Svetushkin,D (2542)-Jianu,V (2523) Satu Mare 2019]
16...Qxf2+ Inferior alternatives:
[16...Be7?! 1.22/25 16...Qxf2+ 0.50 17.g3! *(17.Qxh4* 0.06/17 17.g3 1.07 *Bxh4+ 18.Kd2 Bd8 19.Rhb1 Bc6 20.Rb8 Rxb8 21.Rxb8 0-0=* 1/2 (24) Shirov,A (2714)-Morozevich,A (2694) Biel 2011*)* 17...Qh3 18.Kd2 h5 1.58/23 *(18...Bd8?* 1.97/22 18...Bc8 0.40 *19.Rhb1 Bc6 20.Bc5! Bxb7 21.Rxb7±* 1/2 (63) Karjakin,S (2771)-Agdestein,S (2628) Stavanger 2014 CBM 161 [Marin,M]*; 18...Bc8!±* 0.67/20 *19.Rb3 0-0)* 19.Rhb1± Rc8 20.Qe2!± *(≤20.Ra7* 0.09/22 20.Qe2 1.57 *h4! 21.Rbb7 hxg3 22.hxg3 Qh1!⇄* 1/2 (26) Aryan,C (2553)-Sankalp,G (2359) Xingtai 2019 *)*]
[16...Qd8?! 17.Bb6 Qc8 18.Rc7 Qd8 19.Rb7? -0.01/17 *(19.f5!; 19.f5+-* 1.94/24 *)* 19...Qc8= 20.Rc7 Qd8 21.0-0? 0.31/19 *(* White should play *21.f5+-* 2.00/19 *)* 21...Rc8!± 1/2 (38) Almasi,Z (2707)-Meier,G (2659) Lubbock 2010 22.Ra7! Qxb6! 23.Qxb6 Bc5+ 24.Qxc5 Rxc5 25.Na4! Rxc2 26.Rb1!↑]
17.Kxf2 Be7!
[17...Rc8 1.22/22 17...Be7 0.50 18.Ke3 Bc5 19.Bxc5 Rxc5 20.Rb8+ 0.51/23 *(20.Na4±* 1.37/23 *Bxa4*

21.Rb8+ Ke7 22.Rxh8) 20...Bc8± 21.Kd2 0-0 22.Rhb1 Bd7 0.83/23 Inhibits Na4. *(22...f6± 0.46/22)* 23.R1b7± Re8 1.04/23 *(23...Bc6!± 0.63/25 24.Rxf8+ Kxf8)* 24.Rxe8+ Bxe8 25.Ra7 Ra5! 26.Kd3± 0.12/23 1/2 (50) Saric,I (2678)-Lupulescu,C (2626) Germany 2016 *(26.f5± 1.16/22)*]

18.Nd1N -0.20/23 Hardly a good novelty.

[⌓18.Rhb1

A) 18...Bd8! 19.Rb8!± *(19.Ke3 Bc6 20.R7b3 0-0 21.Bc5 Re8 22.Ne2 Ba4 23.R3b2 Rc8 24.Bb6 Be7 25.c3 Bb5 26.Bd4 Rc4 27.Nc1 Rec8 28.Nd3 f6 29.Kd2 Kf7 30.g3 Ra4 31.Nb4 Rc7 32.Nc2 Ba3 33.Nxa3 Rxa3* 0-1 Duda,J (2731)-Grischuk,A (2745) Speed Chess Q2 KO blitz 2022 (1.7)*)* 19...Rxb8 20.Rxb8 0-0 21.Rb7 Bc6 22.Ra7 Ba5 23.Rxa6 Bxc3 24.Bxc3 Rc8 25.Ke3 Bb7 *(25...Bb5 26.Ra5 Bf1 27.Kf2 h5 28.Bd4 Bc4 29.a4 Kh7 30.Ra7 Kg6 31.a5 Rb8 32.Bb6 Rc8 33.Bd4 Rc6 34.Re7 Rc8 35.g3 Ba6 36.c3 Rb8 37.Bb6 Rb7 38.Re8 Kf5 39.Ke3 Kg4 40.Kd4* 1-0 Madaminov,M (2521)-Murzin,V (2657) Tashkent Al Beruniy-A 2nd 2025 (6) *)* 26.Ra3 h5 27.Kd3 Rc4 28.Bd4 Bc6 29.Ra5 Bd7 30.h3 Kh7 31.g4 Ba4 32.c3 hxg4 33.hxg4 Bd1 34.Ra7 ½-½ Baracu,N (2364)-Volkov,D (2092) Sigeman & Co 04th_114347 1996 (4);

B) 18...Bd8!± 0.38/22;

C) 18...Bc8 1.11/22 19.R7b3± 0-0 20.Na4 a5?! 1.46/23 *(⌓20...Bd8 , firmly defending; ⌓20...Bd8* 0.95/20 *)* 21.Nb6± Ra6? 7.06/22 *(21...Rb8 22.Nxd5 Bh4+ 23.g3±; 21...Rb8±* 1.17/23 *)* 22.Rc3+- 1-0 (28) Wang,J (2380)-Zhang,X (2374) China 2016]

[18.Rhb1± 0.50/26]

18...Bd8= 19.Ne3 Bc6

[19...Bb5!?]

20.Rb2 0-0 21.Bc5 Re8 22.c4 f6 23.cxd5 exd5 24.Bd6

[24.Bd4!? fxe5 25.fxe5 Bc7 26.Rc1 Bxe5 27.Bxe5 Rxe5 28.Rxc6 Rf8+! 29.Ke2 d4 30.Rb3! Rfe8 31.Rxa6=]

24...fxe5 25.fxe5 d4 It is Black who has initiative now. The position has opened up, and his bishop pair become formidable. **26.Nf5** Dodges Bh4+ **26...d3 27.Ke3** Prevents Be4. **27...Bb5 28.Ke4 Rc8** ...Rc4+ poses a challenge **29.Nd4! Bc4 30.Rd1 a5**

[30...g6!?]

31.a3 g6 32.Rb7 Bf6 33.Nf3 Bg7 Black is weak on the dark squares **34.Ra7?!** -0.47/24

[34.h4∞]

[34.g4= 0.02/24]

34...Rcd8 0.00/22

[34...Bb3! 35.Rd2 Bc2 , and White must give up an exchange by 36.Rxa5 Bh6 37.Kd4!∓]

[34...Bb3!∓ -0.47/24 35.Rxd3 Bc2 Pin]

35.Kd4?! -0.92/24

[⌓35.Kf4]

[35.Kf4= 0.00/22 remains equal.]

35...Bb3!∓

[35...Rxd6+!? -0.40/17 35...Bb3 -0.80 36.Kxc4 Rc8+ 37.Kb3 Rb6+ -0.19/23 *(37...Rd5∓* -0.71/19 *)* 38.Ka4= Rc4+ 39.Kxa5 Rb3↑]

[35...Rxd6+ 36.Kxc4 Rc8+ 37.Kb3]

36.Rxg7+! Kxg7 37.Rxd3 a4 -0.22/19

[⌓37...Be6∓ -0.48/21 37...Bg8 -1.11]

[37...Be6∓ -0.88/20 and ...Rc8 would now be decisive 38.Ng5 Bf5]

38.Nd2!= Be6 0.01/19

[38...Bc2∓ -0.47/20 deserves consideration. 39.Re3 h5]

39.Ne4 Bf5 40.Re3 Bxe4 It is a pity to give up this bishop, useful to stop White's passed pawn, but allowing Ne4-c5 was not better. **41.Rxe4** Endgame KRR-KRB **41...Rf8⇄** Black is not holding back **42.Ke3** Against Rf2 **42...Rfe8 43.Kf4 Ra8 44.Rb4**

[44.e6 keeps more tension. Ra5 45.e7 Kf7 46.h4]

44...Ra7 45.Ke4 Kf7 46.Rb6 Rc8 47.Bb4 Rac7 48.Kd5 Rc2 Black takes a risky course, still playing for a win.

49.e6+ Kf6 50.Rb7 g5

[50...Rxg2 51.Rf7+ Kg5 52.e7+-]

51.Rxh7 Rxg2 52.Kd6 Kg6 53.Rh3 g4 54.Re3 Rxh2 55.Kd7 Rhh8 56.e7 Repels Rhd8+. White has compensation.

56...Rce8 57.Bd6 Ra8 1.73/26

[57...Kf5= 0.23/23 and Black stays safe.]

58.Bc7 0.31/21

[58.e8Q+ Rhxe8 59.Rxe8 Rxe8 60.Kxe8 Kg5 61.Be7+ Kf5+-]

[58.e8N Rh7+ 59.Kc6 Rc8+ 60.Nc7 Rg7=]

[58.e8R+- 1.73/26]

58...Rag8 1.76/25

[Black should play 58...Rh7± 0.31/21]

59.Re4

[Fortunately for Black, 59.e8Q+ Rxe8 60.Rxe8 Rxe8 61.Kxe8 is a theoretical draw, due to the wrong a8 corner.]

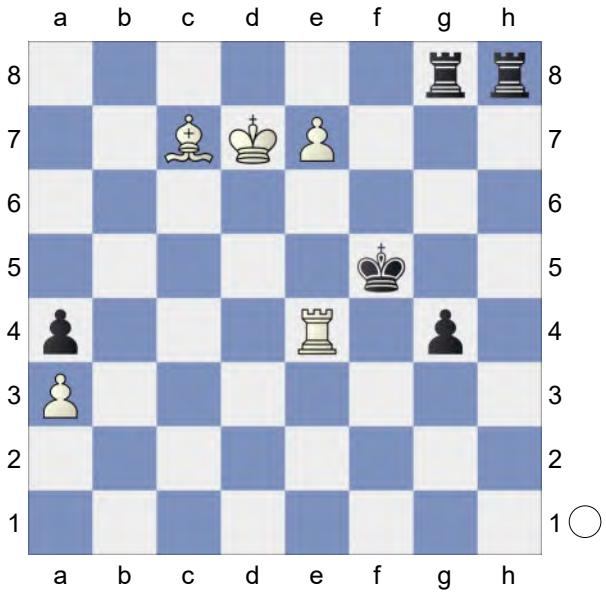
[59.e8Q+ Rxe8 60.Rxe8 Rh7+ 61.Re7 Rh3+-]

[59.e8N Rh7+ 60.Kd8 Rh3=]

[59.e8B+?! Kg5=]

59...Kf5 2.26/24

[59...Kh5± 1.42/24 was necessary.]



60.Rf4+!+-

[60.e8R Rxe8 61.Rxe8 Rxe8 62.Kxe8 Ke6=]

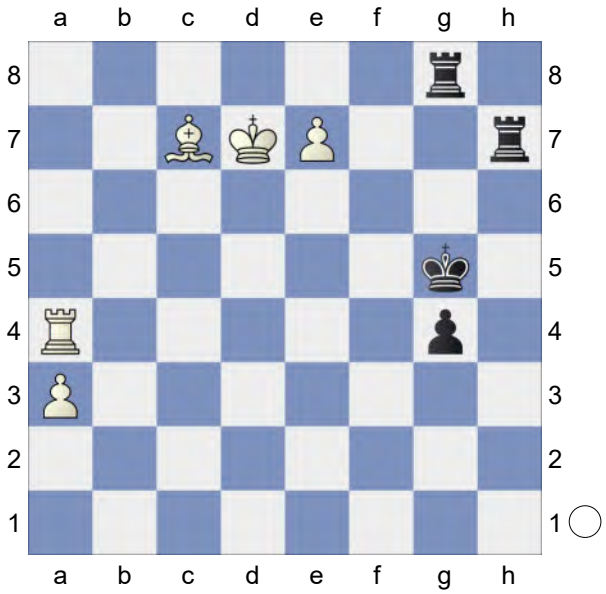
[60.Rxa4 g3=]

60...Kg5 61.Rxa4 1.12/24

[61.Be5+- 2.34/26 has better winning chances.]

61...Kh4? 4.90/23 A wrong direction. Black's king should help his rooks fighting against White's e-pawn.

[61...Rh7



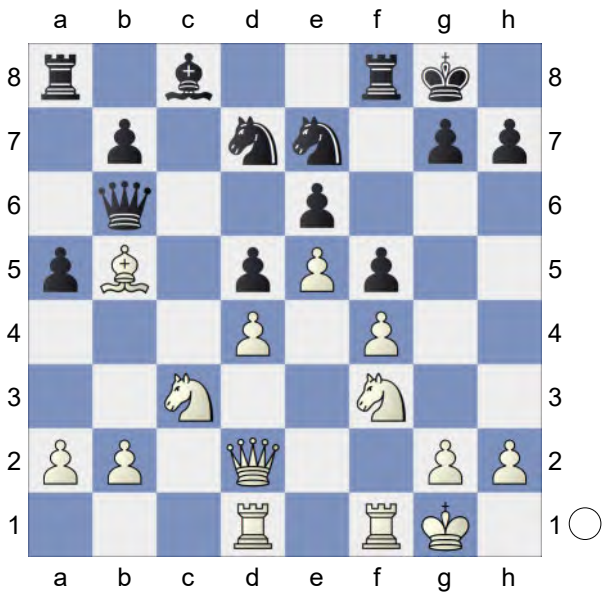
, pinning the e7 pawn, was a must. Black should not lose in that case, e.

g. 62.Re4 0.20/22 *(62.Bd6!± 1.20/21)* 62...Ra8= 63.a4 Kf6 64.Re6+ Kf5 65.a5 And now Re5+ would win. g3! etc.]
[61...Rh7± 1.12/24 is a better chance.]
62.Re4 Ra8
[62...Rh7 is too late: 63.a4 Ra8 64.a5 etc.]
63.a4
[63.e8R Rhxe8 64.Rxe8 Rxa3±]
63...Kg5 64.a5
[Weaker is 64.e8R Rhxe8 65.Rxe8 Rxa4±]
64...Rh7 65.Kc6 2.33/22
[⌓65.Kd6 4.50/22]
65...Rhh8 66.Kd7? -0.01/15
[66.Re3+- 2.55/23]
66...Rh7!= 67.Kc6? -0.01/16
[67.Kd6+- 4.18/20]
67...Rhh8! 68.Re3 2.22/19
[⌓68.Re5+ 3.88/22 Kf6 69.Kd7]
68...Rhe8? 7.49/19
[68...Kf5 2.22/19 69.Re5+ Kf6]
69.Kd7+- Kf6 70.Re6+ Kf7 71.Re4 Kf6 72.Bd8
[And not 72.Rxg4 Rxe7+ 73.Kd6 Rxc7 74.Kxc7 Rxa5=]
72...Kf5 73.Kxe8 White threatens Re2 and mate. **73...Kxe4** Weighted Error Value: White=0.14 (very precise) / Black=0.18 (very precise) **74.Kf8**
1-0

128 **C05**
□ **Alekseenko,Kirill** **2698**
■ **Nepomniachtchi,Ian** **2774**
Yekaterinburg (ct) 144/81 2020
[Perunovic,Milos, MH]

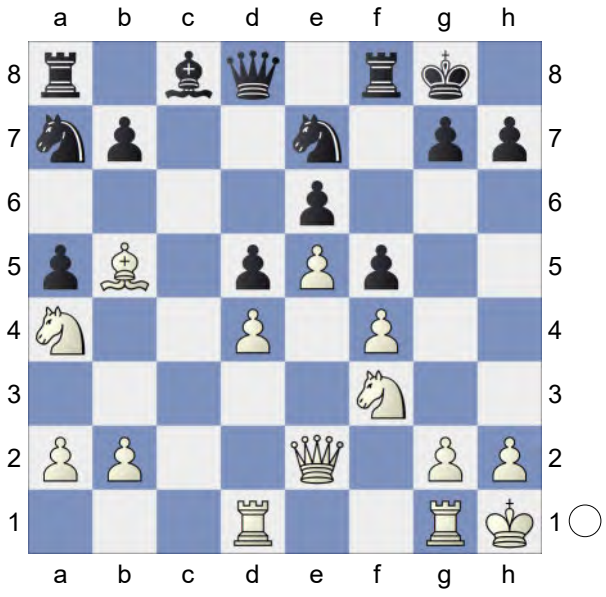
C05: French Tarrasch: 3...Nf6 4 e5 Nfd7, 5 f4 and 5 Bd3 sidelines **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 Qb6 8.Nf3 cxd4**
[8...f6 9.a3 Be7 10.h4 0-0 11.b4 cxd4 12.cxd4 a5 13.b5 Qxb5 14.Nc3 Qb6 15.Rb1 Qd8 16.Bd3 h6 17.Nb5 Ra6 18.Bc2 f5 19.g4 Nb6 20.gxf5 exf5 21.Bd3 Na8 22.Kf2 Rb6 23.Qg1 ½-½ 4.h3 Bg7 5.Nf3 de4 6.Ne (2582)-10.dc5 Bc5 11.Bd2 (2734) Nanjing 2010 (7)]
9.cxd4 Bb4+ 10.Bd2!? John Watson: 'Rarely played. White avoids allowing ... c4 with tempo, but fails to exert pressure on the kingside.' **10...Bxd2+N**
[10...0-0 11.Bxb4 Qxb4+ 12.Qd2 Nb6 13.Nc3 Rd8 14.Nb5 Bd7 15.Nd6 Rab8 16.Rc1 Qxd2+ 17.Kxd2 Nc8 18.Nb5 a6 19.Nc3 N8e7 20.Bd3 Rbc8 21.b3 Nb4 22.a3 Nbc6 23.b4 h6 24.h4 Nb8 25.Ke3 3 Chapter-Games Chapter 1 (2) Game]
11.Qxd2N f6 12.Nc3 0-0 White is better. **13.Rd1**
[13.0-0-0= Qa5 14.Bd3 Nb4 15.Bb1∞ b5! plays for the win, since 16.h4?! 0.61/18 *(16.a3± 1.04/21 Nc6 17.Qd3)* 16...Bb7! 1.57/18 *(16...Nb6± 0.61/18)* 17.a3± Rfc8? 3.06/17 *(17...Nc6± 1.51/17)* 18.axb4+- Qxb4]
13...a5 14.Bb5 Ne7 15.0-0 f5 Diagram

(Diagram)



16.Qe2?! **Nb8?** John Watson: '?!' **17.Na4** **Qd8** John Watson: '?!' **18.Kh1** White has more active pieces. **18...Nbc6** **19.Rg1** John Watson: '!' John Watson: 'Giving up the exchange.' **19...Na7** 1.74/23

[19...Bd7± 1.30/21 20.Nc5 Qc8]



20.Bd3!+- John Watson: '!?' **20...Ng6** 2.05/20

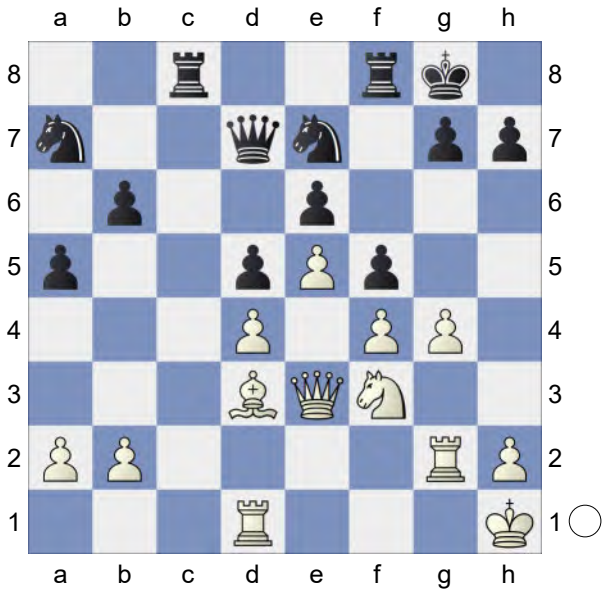
[20...Bd7± 1.53/19 was worth a try.]

21.Qe3 **Bd7** 2.68/18

[21...Nc6± 1.60/17 22.Rc1 Rb8]

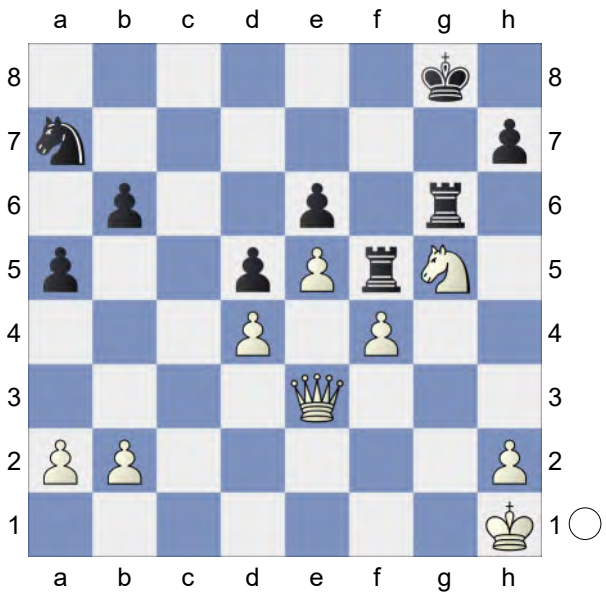
22.Nc5 John Watson: 'This is still quite promising, even a tempo down.' **22...b6?** John Watson: '!?' John Watson: 'To contest d4.' **23.Nxd7** **Qxd7** **24.g4?** **Ne7** **25.Rg2** And now Rdg1 would win. **25...Rac8?** 3.70/22 Diagram

[⌓25...Nac6 2.14/20 26.Ng5 Nb4]



26.Rdg1? John Watson: 'Missing a huge opportunity in' **26...Rc7** **27.gxf5** **Nxf5** **28.Bxf5** **Rxf5** **29.Rxg7+** **Qxg7** John Watson: 'Now that the bishop regains activity, Black seems to have what chances there are but it's not easy to make progress, and the game quickly ends in a draw:' **30.Rxg7+** **Rxg7** **31.Ng5** **Rg6**

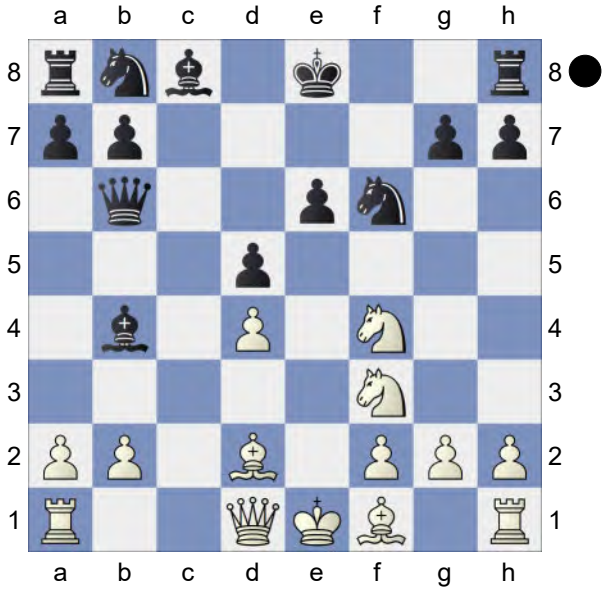
(Diagram)



32.Nxe6! Nc6 John Watson: '!?'
[32...Rxe6? too greedy. 33.Qh3+-]
[32...Nc8 33.Ng5]
33.Nc7 Ne7 John Watson: 'Drawing.'
34.Ne8! Rf8 35.Nf6+ Kg7 4.02/21
[35...Kh8 2.56/20 is a better defense. 36.h4 Rc8]
36.Qa3 Nf5 4.79/22
[36...Rfxf6 2.43/21 37.exf6+ Kxf6]
37.Qh3 White is clearly winning.
[37.Nxd5 Rc8 38.Nc3 Rc4=]
37...Rfxf6 38.exf6+ Kxf6 39.Qxh7 Nxd4 40.Qh8+ Rg7 41.Qh6+ Kf7 42.Qh5+ Weighted Error Value: White=0.25 (precise) / Black=0.50. An unexpected result.
½-½

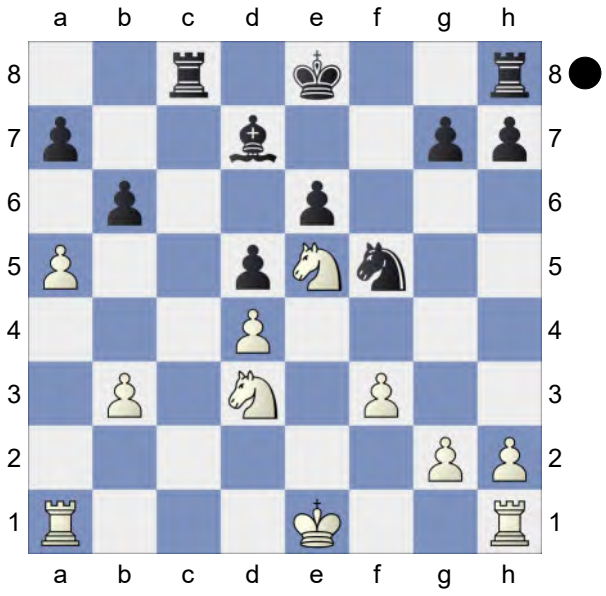
129 **C11**
□ **Bellingol77** **2697**
■ **Kos1189** **2668**
Blitz 26.02.2025
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 RR: 'Inf 56/(302)' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Qb6 7.Nf3**
[7.f4 f6 8.Nf3 Be7 9.f5 cxd4 10.Nexd4 Nxe5 11.Nxe5 fxe5 12.Qh5+ Kd8 13.Nxe6+ Bxe6 14.fxe6 Qxe6 15.Be2 g6 16.Bg4 Qd6 17.Qh3 Nc6 18.Bh6 Bf8 19.0-0 Bxh6 20.Qxh6 Kc7 21.Rf7+ Kb6 1-0 Morozevich,A (2678)-Bareev,E (2729) Amber XII Blindfold 2003 (9)]
7...f6 8.exf6 Nxf6 The position is equal.
9.Nf4N
[9.g3 Bd6 *(9...Nc6 10.Bg2 cxd4 11.cxd4 Bb4+ 12.Kf1 0-0 13.Bf4 C 11/06 2000)* 10.Bg2 0-0 11.0-0 Nc6 12.b3 cxd4 13.cxd4 Bd7 14.Bf4 Ba3 15.Nc3 Qd8 16.Na4 b6 C 11/06 2000]
9...cxd4 10.cxd4 -1.51/18
[10.Bd3± 0.33/19]
10...Bb4+!∓ 11.Bd2



Ne4? 0.01/18
[11...Bxd2+!∓ -1.56/18 12.Qxd2 Ne4]
12.Qa4+= Nc6 13.Bxb4 Qxb4+ 14.Qxb4 Nxb4 15.Bd3 -0.39/22 Inhibits Nc2+.
[15.Rc1= 0.02/22 is superior.]
15...Nxd3+ 0.41/19

[15...Bd7∓ -0.39/22]
16.Nxd3± Bd7 17.a4 Inhibits Bb5.
17...Rc8 18.Nfe5 With the idea f3.
18...b6 0.72/19
[18...Ke7= 0.04/20]
19.f3± Nd6 20.b3? -1.38/22
[20.g4± 0.61/19 stays ahead.]
20...Nf5∓ 21.a5

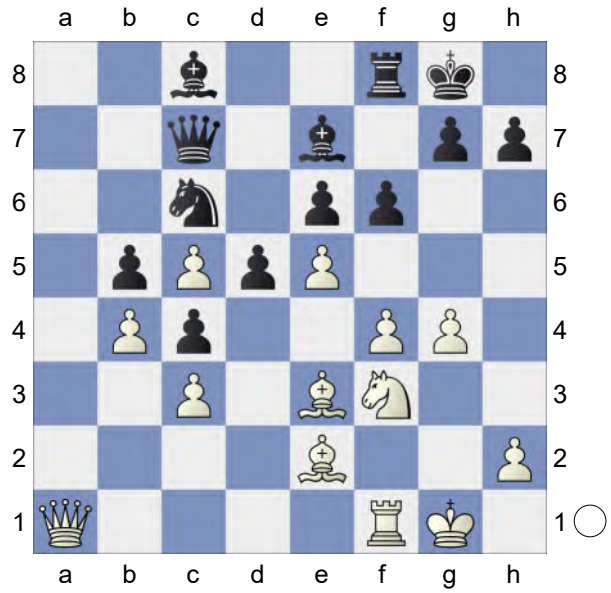


Nxd4 -0.04/19
[21...Bb5!∓ -1.28/21 ...Bxd3 is the strong threat. 22.axb6 axb6]
22.axb6!= axb6 23.Ra7 Bb5 24.Rxg7 Rc3 25.0-0! Nf5!
[25...Bxd3?! 26.Ra1±]
[25...Rxd3? 26.Nxd3 Bxd3 27.Rd1+-]
26.Rb7 0-0 27.Rd1 Bxd3 Deflection
28.Rxd3 -0.49/21
[28.Nxd3= -0.01/19 Rxb3 29.Ne5]
28...Rc1+ 29.Kf2 Ra8 0.41/22
[Better is 29...Rc2+∓ -0.47/21 30.Ke1 Rxg2]
30.Rd2± and g4! should not be overlooked
[30.Rxb6? Ra2+]
30...Raa1? 3.43/21
[30...h5= 0.30/19 and Black stays safe.]
31.g4+-
[31.Rxb6? Rf1+ 32.Ke2 Rae1+ 33.Kd3 Rxe5-+]
31...Rf1+ 3.61/21
[⌓31...Re1 2.48/19 32.Nd7 Rf1+ 33.Kg2 Ne7 34.Nf6+ Discovered Attack, Deflection *(34.Rxb6 Rg1+ 35.Kf2 Kf7=)* 34...Kf7 35.Nxh7 Rg1+ 36.Kh3 Ra8]
32.Kg2 Rg1+? 5.35/24
[32...Rfe1 2.09/17 is tougher.]
33.Kh3 Ne3 6.93/17
[⌓33...Nd6 4.89/19]
34.Rd3 Ng2 9.37/18
[⌓34...Rge1 4.14/21 35.Rc3 *(35.Rxb6 Nd1=)* 35...Rac1 36.Rxc1 Rxc1 37.Rxb6 Rc3]
35.Rc3
[35.Rxb6? Rae1 *(35...Nf4+ 36.Kh4∓)* 36.Rb7 *(36.Rxe6?* is the wrong capture. *Nf4+ 37.Kh4 Nxd3-+* Pin; *36.Rb8+? Kg7-+)* 36...Rxe5-+ *(36...Nf4+? 37.Kh4-+)*]
35...Nf4+ 36.Kh4 Rgc1 37.Rxc1 Rxc1 38.Kg5
[38.Rxb6 h6±]
38...Ne2 39.Kf6 Rb8+ would kill now.
39...h6 40.Rb8+ Kh7 White used his chance. Weighted Error Value: White=0.33/Black=1.15 **41.Nf7**
1-0

130 **C11**
□ **Kamsky,Gata** **2695**
■ **Bareev,Evgeny** **2685**
60/277 Madrid 1994
[Kitty Kat]

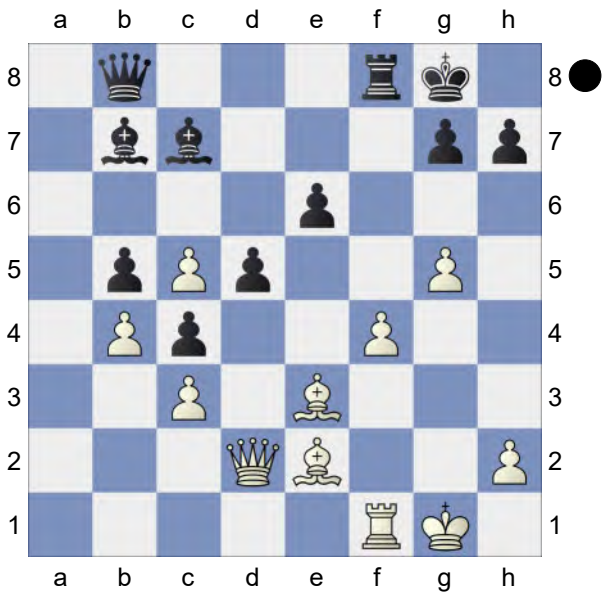
C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Qb6 8.Na4 Qa5+ 9.c3 c4**

10.b4 Qc7 11.Be2 Be7 12.g4 0.27/19
[12.0-0± 1.04/15]
12...b5= 13.Nc5 a5 14.a3 0-0 0.67/20
[14...Nxc5= 0.26/19 15.bxc5 *(15.dxc5 f6=)* 15...Rb8]
15.0-0± White is more active. **15...axb4 16.axb4 Rxa1 17.Qxa1 Nxc5 18.dxc5**
[18.bxc5 b4=]
18...f6!



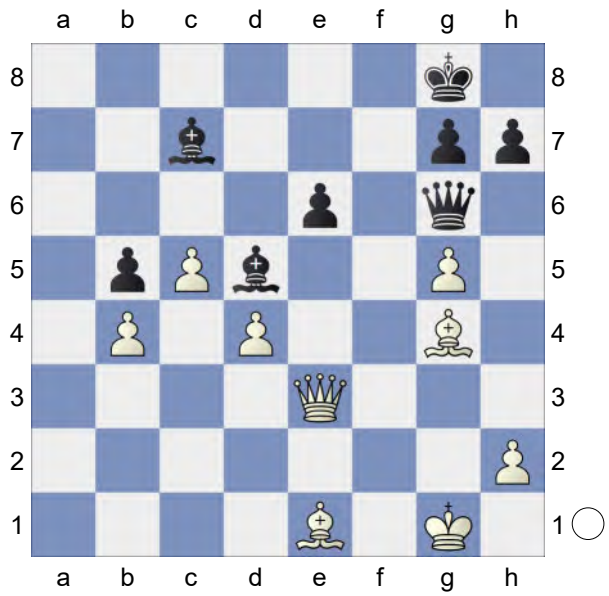
19.exf6! Bxf6 20.g5 0.21/22
[20.Qc1!± 0.68/20]
20...Bd8 0.76/21
[20...d4= 0.21/22]
21.Qc1 0.01/21
[21.h4± 0.76/21]
21...Qb8 0.45/22
[21...Qf7= 0.01/21 is superior.]
22.Qd2 Bc7 23.Nd4 Nxd4 24.Qxd4 Bb7 25.Qd2 -0.01/21
[25.Bg4± 0.49/23 Qe8 26.Qd2]

(Diagram)

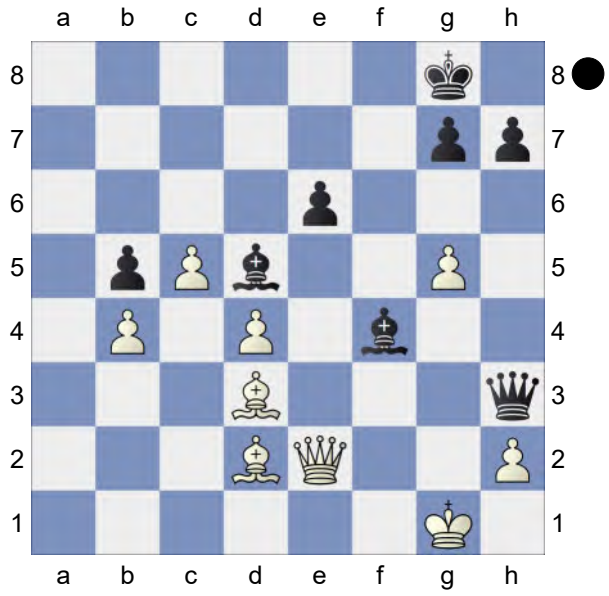


25...d4N 26.cxd4
[26.Bxd4? Bxf4 *(26...Rxf4 27.Qe3∓)* 27.Rxf4 Rxf4-+ *(27...Qxf4? 28.Qxf4 Rxf4 29.Bf2-+)*]
[26.Qxd4? Rd8 27.Bxc4 Rxd4 *(27...bxc4? 28.Qxc4 Bd5 29.Qa6-+)* 28.Bxe6+ Kh8 29.Bxd4 Qe8-+ *(29...Bxf4? 30.Rf2-+)*]
26...Qa8 27.Bg4 Bd5 28.Qe1 Qa2 29.Rf2 Qb3 30.Bd2 c3!→ Deflection. Black mounts an attack. **31.Bxc3 Rxf4 32.Rxf4 Bxf4 33.Bd2 Bc7 34.Qe3 Qb1+ 35.Be1 Qg6** 1.06/22
[35...Qa2= 0.01/21 remains equal. 36.Bd2 Qa1+ 37.Kf2 e5]

(Diagram)



36.Be2 0.05/23
[White should play 36.h4!± 1.06/22]
36...Qf5 37.Bd3? -3.03/26
[37.Bg3= 0.13/24 and White stays safe. Bxg3 38.hxg3]
37...Bf4!-+ 38.Qe2 Qh3 -0.01/19
[38...Qxg5+-+ -3.29/28 39.Kf1 Be3]
39.Bd2!=
[39.Bg3? Be3+ 40.Qxe3 Qg2#]



39...Bxh2+ Deflection **40.Qxh2 Qxd3** Endgame KQB-KQB **41.Qb8+ Kf7 42.Qf4+ Kg6 43.Kf2 Qh3 44.Qg3** -0.50/30
[44.Qe3= -0.14/24 Qxe3+ 45.Bxe3]
44...Qf5+ -0.01/25
[44...Qxg3+∓ -0.50/30 45.Kxg3 Kf5]
45.Qf4 Qd3 46.Qe3 Qb1 47.Kg3 Qf1 48.Qf2 Inhibits Qg2+. **48...Qh1 49.Kf4 Be4 50.Kg3 Bf5 51.Qg2 Qa1**
[51...Qxg2+ simplifies 52.Kxg2 Be4+ 53.Kf1 Bc6]
52.Qf2 Qd1 53.Qe3
[53.Kf4 is more complex. Qh1 54.Qe2 Qd5 55.Bc3]
53...Qg4+ 54.Kf2 Qh4+ 55.Kf3 Qh3+ 56.Kf2 Qh2+ 57.Kf3 Kh5 58.Qf4 Prevents Bg4+. **58...Qg1 59.Ke2 Kg6 60.Qf2 Qh1 61.Qg3 Bh3** -0.09/21
[61...Qe4+∓ -0.62/24 62.Qe3 Qg4+ 63.Kf1 Be4]
62.Qd3+! Kh5 Hoping for ...Bf1+. **63.Qg3!**
[63.Qxh7+? too greedy. Kg4-+]
63...Qf1+ 64.Ke3 Kg6 65.Qf2 Prevents Bf5 **65...Qd1**
[65...Kxg5 66.Qxf1 Bxf1 67.Kf2+ Kg6 68.Kxf1+-]
66.Kf4 The position is equal. **66...Bf5 67.Qg2 Qa1 68.Ke5** Strongly threatening Qc6. **68...Qb2 69.Qf2 Qb3 70.Qg2** Dodges Qd5+ Weighted Error Value: White=0.21 (precise) /Black=0.19 (very precise) **70...Qb2**
½-½

131 **C11**
□ **SpeedMonkey** **2694**
■ **Aggressive-Python** **2736**
Blitz 09.01.2025
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 The singular Strategy of Steinitz's play

"Place the contents of the chessbox in your hat," said Bird, "shake them up vigorously, pour them on the board at a height of two feet, and you get the style of Steinitz." Bird may have been joking, but to players brought up on the straightforward attacking and combination play of Anderssen and Morphy, the weird-looking, time-wasting maneuvers of Steinitz to obtain a trivial advantage in position seemed far removed from the gallant "when Knights were bold" spirit of chess. And yet it is from Steinitz and his queer moves that we learn so much about game-winning strategy. It is from Steinitz, whose play might have horrified La Bourdonnais and Morphy, that we discover the fundamentals of position play. In the early part of the following game, we may be amused by the unconventionality of Steinitz's play – the delayed Castling, the absurd-looking moves, the quixotic journey of a Knight over five squares to reach a remote outpost at the side of the board. But by the time we get to the end of the game, we will have learned a great deal about modern chess strategy.

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.dxc5 -0.02/18

[6.Nf3± 0.34/16]

6...Bxc5 7.a3N -0.30/18

[⌓7.Bd2 0.21/17]

[7.Nf3 a6 8.Bd3 Nc6 9.Qe2 Nb4 10.Bd2 b5 11.Nd1 Nxd3+ 12.cxd3 Qb6 13.b4 Be7 14.a3 f5 15.Rc1 Bb7 16.Be3 Qd8 17.Nd4 Nf8 18.0-0 h5 19.Nc3 Kf7 20.Nb1 g6 21.Nd2 Nd7 1-0 Voboril,P-9.♗a5 b6 10.♕d6_70120 Chapter - Games 6-10 (1) 22.N2b3 Rc8 23.Na5 Ba8 24.Rxc8 Qxc8 25.Rc1 Qb8 26.Qc2 Bd8 27.Nac6 Qb7 28.Nxd8+ Rxd8 29.Qc7 Qb8 30.Bf2 Qb6 31.Nf3 Qxc7 32.Rxc7 Ke8 33.Ng5 Nf8 34.Bc5 Nd7 35.Bd6 39 1-0 Steinitz,W-Sellman,A Game 1885]

[7.Qg4 0-0 8.Nf3 Qe7 9.Bd3 f6 10.Qh3 g6 11.Qg3 Nc6 12.h4 Qg7 13.h5 gxh5 14.Qxg7+ Kxg7 15.Rxh5 h6 16.Bd2 f5 17.0-0-0 Nb6 18.Rdh1 Rh8 19.a3 Bd7 20.Ne2 Rag8 21.Be1 Be8 1-0 Le Pen,S (1867)-Duboue,P (2368) Sautron op 15th 2015 (2.68)]

7...a6 0.28/18

[⌓7...Nc6 -0.30/18]

8.b4 Ba7 The position is equal. **9.Bb2** -0.12/18

[9.Bd3± 0.34/17]

9...Nc6= 10.Bd3 b5 11.Nf3 -0.19/17

[11.Qh5 0.21/17]

11...Qb6 0.26/19

[11...Nb6 -0.19/17]

12.Qe2 Bb7 0.52/16

[12...0-0= -0.01/18]

13.0-0-0± 0-0-0 14.Kb1 h6 Wards off Ng5 **15.f5** 0.16/17

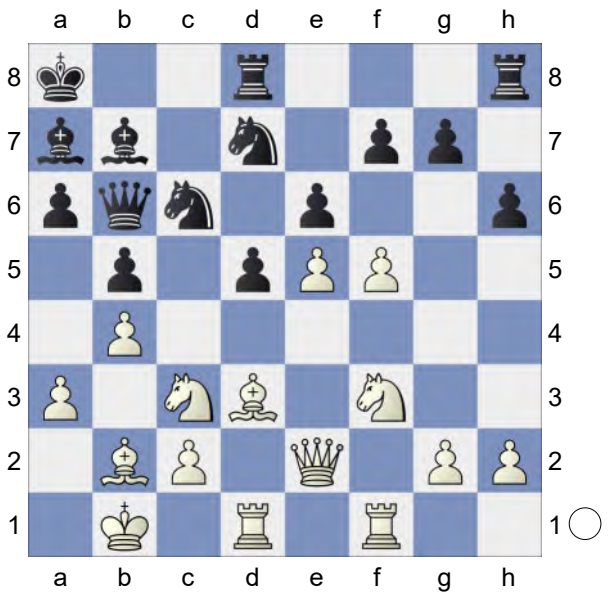
[15.h4± 0.60/18]

15...Kb8= 16.Rhf1 -0.12/20

[16.fxe6± 0.43/19 fxe6 17.Na2]

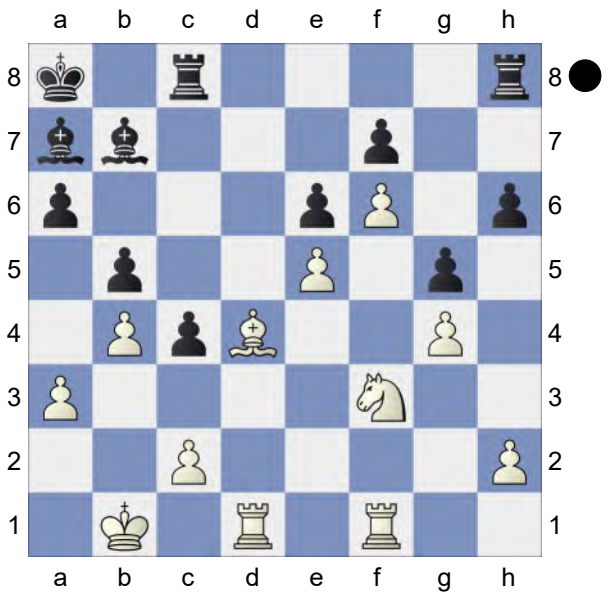
16...Ka8

(Diagram)



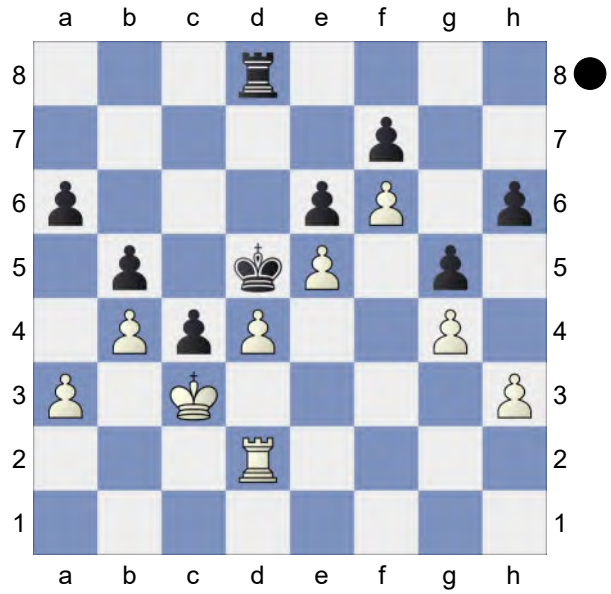
17.f6 -1.22/18 **g5** -0.47/18
[17...gxf6∓ -1.22/18 18.exf6 Rhf8]
18.g4 -0.99/19
[18.h3∓ -0.47/18]
18...Rc8 -0.01/19
[18...Bb8∓ -0.99/19]
19.Na2 -0.68/17
[19.Nxd5!= -0.01/19 exd5 20.Bf5]
19...Qe3 -0.21/20
[19...Qc7∓ -0.68/17]
20.Nc1 Qxe2! 21.Bxe2
[21.Nxe2 Bb8 22.a4 bxa4∓ *(22...Ndxe5 23.axb5 axb5 24.Bxb5∓)*]
21...Nb6 0.01/19
[21...Bb8∓ -0.45/20 is superior.]
22.Nb3 -0.85/23
[22.h4!= 0.01/19 remains equal.]
22...Nc4∓ 23.Bxc4 dxc4 24.Nbd4 -2.75/22
[24.Nbd2!∓ -0.64/21]
24...Nxd4-+ 25.Bxd4 -3.21/21
[⌓25.Nxd4 -1.83/22 c3 *(25...h5 26.gxh5 c3 27.Bc1=)* 26.Bc1]

(Diagram)



25...Bb8? -0.92/20
[25...Bxf3!-+ -3.21/21 is more deadly. 26.Rxf3 Rcd8]
26.c3 Rcd8 -0.85/19
[⌓26...Rcg8 -1.23/21 27.Be3 Bxf3 Remove Defender 28.Rxf3 Rd8 29.Rxd8 Rxd8]
27.Nd2? -2.78/21
[27.Kc1∓ -0.85/19]
27...Rd5? -0.68/22
[27...Ba7-+ -2.78/21 28.Kc1 Bxd4 29.cxd4 h5 *(29...Rxd4 30.Nb1=)* 30.gxh5 Rxh5 *(30...Rxd4 31.Rfe1∓)*]
28.Rde1∓ Rd7 -0.63/24
[Better is 28...Rhd8∓ -1.42/22 Strongly threatening ...Rxd4. 29.Kc2 Rxd4 30.cxd4 Rxd4]
29.Ne4 Bxe4+ 30.Rxe4 Ba7 31.Kc2? -3.45/27
[31.Rh1∓ -0.85/27]
31...Rhd8-+ 32.Rd1 -5.04/23
[32.h4 -2.66/27 is a better defense. Bxd4 *(32...gxh4 33.Rh1∓)* 33.cxd4]
32...Kb7 33.h3? -5.51/25
[33.h4 -3.12/22]
33...Kc6 34.Rd2 -6.70/25
[⌓34.Kb2 -4.55/23 Bxd4 35.cxd4]
34...Bxd4 35.Rexd4 Rxd4 36.cxd4

Endgame KR-KR **36...Kd5 37.Kc3**



h5! 38.Rg2
[38.gxh5 Rh8]
38...Rh8 39.h4 gxh4 40.g5 Rg8 41.g6 fxg6
[41...Rxg6? perishes. 42.Rxg6 Ke4 43.Rh6+-]
42.f7 Rf8 43.Rxg6 Rxf7 44.Rg8 Rf3+ Deflection **45.Kd2 Kxd4 46.Ke2 Rxa3 47.Rd8+ Ke4 48.Re8 Ra2+ 49.Kf1 c3 50.Rd8 c2 51.Rc8 Ra1+ 52.Ke2 c1Q 53.Rxc1 Rxc1** KR-KPP **54.Kf2 Rc4 55.Kg2 Rxb4** KR-KP **56.Kh3 Rc4 57.Kxh4 Kxe5+** KR-K **58.Kg5 Rf4 59.Kg6 b4 60.Kg7 b3 61.Kg6 h4 62.Kg7 h3?** 0.00/13
[62...b2 -#5/12 mates 63.Kg6 b1Q+ *(63...b1B+ 64.Kg7 h3 65.Kh8 h2 66.Kg8 h1Q 67.Kg7 Qh7#)* 64.Kg7 Qg1+ 65.Kh6 Rf7 66.Kh5 Rh7#]
63.Kh6? -#5/12
[63.Kg8= 0.00/13 b2 *(63...h2* is a self mate. *64.Kg7 b2 65.Kg6 b1Q+ 66.Kh5 h1Q+ 67.Kg5 Qh4#)* 64.Kh8 b1Q *(64...b1B 65.Kg7 h2 66.Kg8 h1Q 67.Kg7 Qh7#)* 65.Kg8 Qg6+ 66.Kh8 Rh4#]
63...h2 Black mates. **64.Kg6 h1Q 65.Kg7 Qg2+ 66.Kh7 Rf3 67.Kh8** Weighted Error Value: White=1.49/ Black=0.40 **67...Rh3#**
0-1

132 **C11**
□ **Ponomariov,Ruslan** **2692**
■ **Forcen Esteban,D.** **2535**
ch-ESP Rapid 2017 (8.2) 13.08.2017
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 We are going to face a fantastic game. Sometimes draws can be really entertaining. This time we can be grateful to Vladimir Kramnik, who sacrificed lots of pieces. It seemed like he is going to crush, but a great defense by his opponent lead the game into an amazing position. **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Be7 7.Be3 b6** 0.70/16
[7...Nc6= 0.22/17 might be stronger.]
8.Qd2 0-0 White is slightly better. **9.h4 Nc6 10.Bb5 Nxd4**
[10...Qc7 11.0-0-0 a6 12.Bd3 f5 13.g4 c4 14.gxf5 cxd3 15.fxe6 Ndb8 16.Nxd5 Qd8 17.Nxe7+ Nxe7 18.Ng5 h6 19.Qxd3 hxg5 20.hxg5 Bxe6 21.Qh7+ Kf7 22.d5 Bf5 23.e6+ Ke8 24.Qxg7 Qc7 25.Rh2 ½-½ Kramnik,V (2812)-Buhmann,R (2653) 44th GM 2016 (3.4)]
11.Nxd4 cxd4 12.Bxd4 Bxh4+N 3.16/19
[12...a6!= 0.29/20 13.Bc6 Rb8 *(13...Bxh4+? 14.g3+-)*]
[12...Nc5 13.0-0-0 Bd7 14.Be2 *(14.Bd3 f5 15.exf6 Bxf6 16.Bxf6 Qxf6 17.g3 b5* Rotondaro,A (2538)-Juarez B,S (2447) 110/301 Nanjing 2010 *)* 14...b5 15.f5 exf5 16.Nxd5

Be6 17.Nxe7+ Qxe7 18.Kb1 Rac8 19.Qb4 Qc7 20.Bxb5 Ne4 21.Qa4 Rfd8 22.c3 Rb8 23.Bxa7 h6 24.Bxb8 Rxb8 25.Rd4 Nc5 26.Qb4 Qxe5 27.Rhd1 ½-½ Van Wely,L (2617)-Sasikiran,K (2654) Moscow Aeroflot op-A 2004 (8) Kh7 28.c4 Ne4 29.a4 f4 30.Ka1 Ng3 31.Qd6 f6 32.Rxf4 Qh5 33.Rfd4 Qe5 34.Qxe5 fxe5 35.Rd8 Rb7 1-0 Paravyan,D (2511)-Lugovskoy,M (2502) RUS-ch U20 Loo 2016 (2)]

[12...f6 13.exf6 Bxf6 14.0-0-0 Nc5 15.Qe3 Bd7 16.Be2 Qc7 17.h5 Rae8 18.h6 g6 19.Rhe1 Bc6 20.Bxf6 Rxf6 21.g3 Qf7 22.Bg4 Qf8 23.Qe5 Rf7 24.Qg5 Qe7 25.Qe5 Qf8 26.Qg5 Qe7 27.Re5 0-1 Brkic,A (2578)-Kozul,Z (2601) CRO-ch 12th Opatija 2012 (6)]

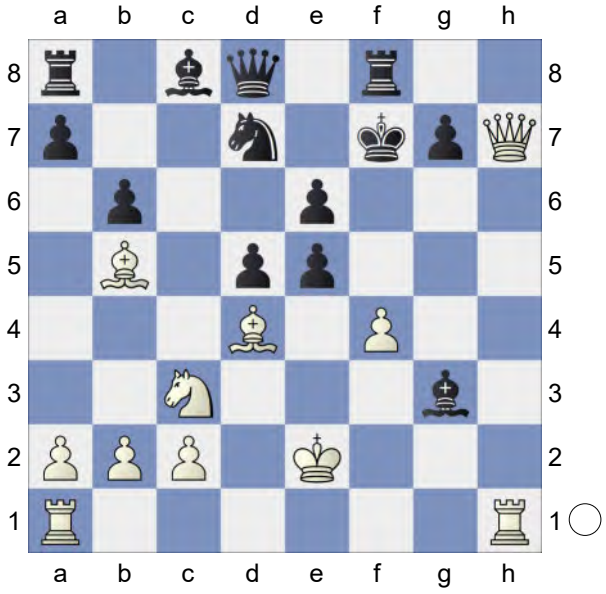
13.g3+- Bxg3+ 4.10/18

[13...Be7 2.68/20 was called for. 14.0-0-0 a6]

14.Ke2 f6 15.Qd3 fxe5 8.96/21

[⌓15...f5 4.71/17 16.Qxg3 Rf7]

16.Qxh7+ Kf7



17.Rh6 4.17/21 **Bxf4** 8.35/24

[⌓17...Qf6 4.17/21 18.Rxf6+ Nxf6]

18.Qg6+? -0.01/5

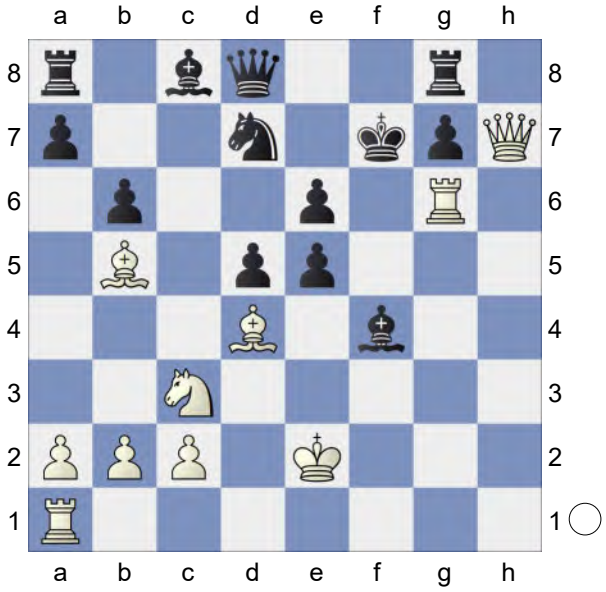
[18.Rg6+- 8.35/24 Ke7 19.Bf2 *(19.Rxg7+ Kd6=; 19.Qxg7+? Rf7-+)*]

18...Kg8= 19.Qh7+

[19.Qxe6+? loses. Rf7-+]

19...Kf7 20.Rg6 Wards off Qg5

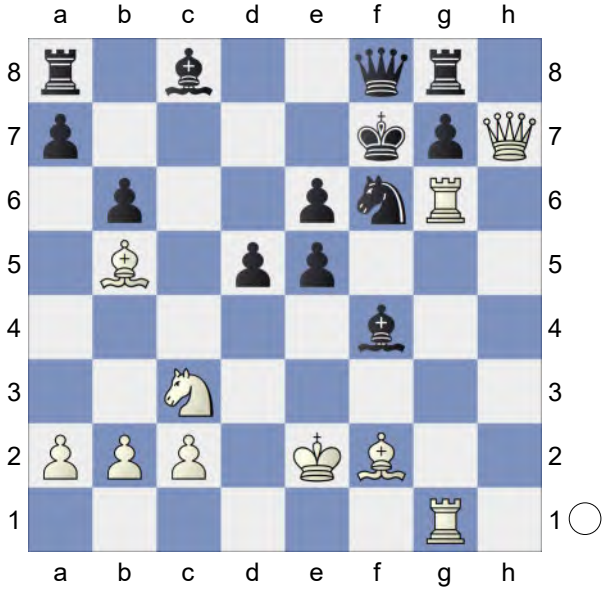
20...Rg8



21.Rag1! Qf8

[21...Ke7 22.Nxd5+]

22.Bf2 Nf6



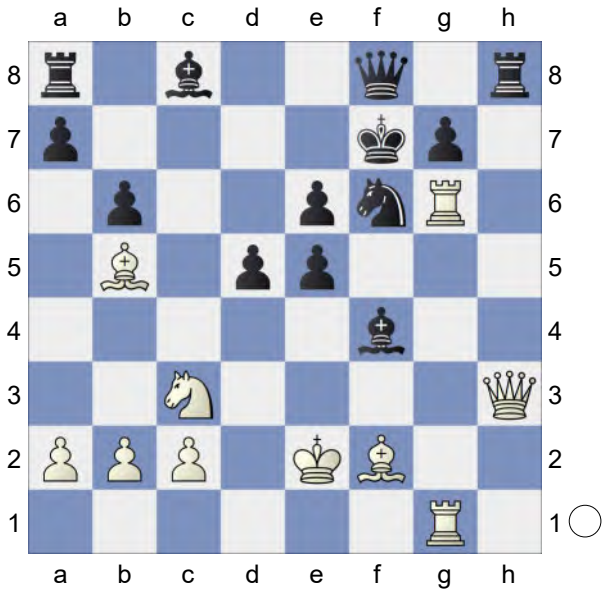
23.Qh3?→ -0.01/20 White attacks.

[23.Rxf6+!+- 10.99/22 Kxf6 24.Nxd5+ exd5 25.Qg6+ Ke7 26.Bh4+ Qf6

27.Bxf6+ Pin Kd6 28.Qf7 *(28.Bxg7+ Be6+-)* 28...gxf6 29.Qxg8 *(29.Rxg8 Be6+-)*]

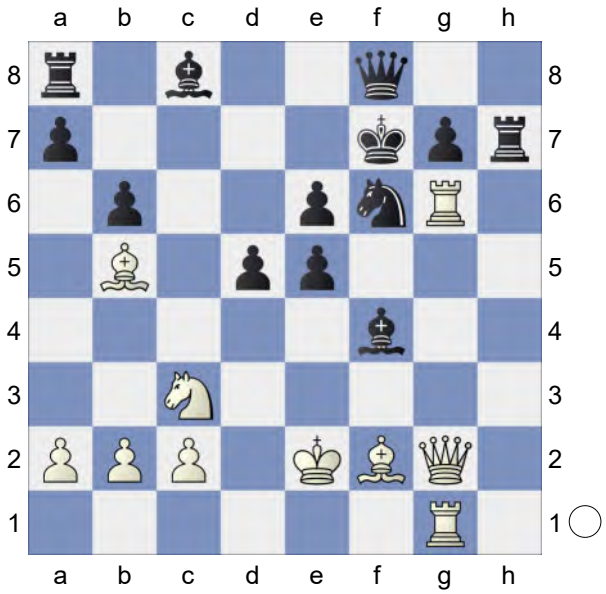
23...Rh8 1.41/20

[23...a6= -0.01/20 24.Bh4 axb5 25.Bxf6 Qc5]



24.Qg2!± Dancing on a razor blade. White has more active pieces. **24...Rh7** 8.49/23

[24...Bh6± 0.96/19]



25.Rxf6+!+- Clearance **25...gxf6**

[25...Kxf6 26.Qg6+]

26.Qg6+ Ke7 27.Qxh7+ Kd6 28.Rg7 27.32/27 Black is weak on the light squares

[⌓28.Ne4+ #3/8 dxe4 29.Rd1+ Bd2 30.Rxd2#]

28...e4 29.Bd4 Rd7+! would kill now.

29...Qd8 30.Rg8 13.79/27

[⌓30.Nxe4+ #17/33 dxe4 31.Qxe4 *(31.Rxa7 Rxa7 32.Qxa7 e5=)* 31...Bd7 32.Be5+ *(32.Qxf4+ e5 33.Rxd7+ Qxd7 34.Qxf6+ Qe6 35.Bxe5+ Kc5 36.Qxe6 Kxb5 37.Qd5+ Ka6; 32.Rxd7+ Qxd7 33.Qxf4+ e5 34.Qxf6+ Qe6 35.Bxe5+ Kc5 36.Qxe6 Kxb5 37.Qd5+ Ka6)* 32...Bxe5 33.Qd3+ *(33.Rxd7+ Qxd7 34.Qd3+ Ke7+-)* 33...Bd4 34.Qxd4+ Kc7 35.Rxd7+ *(35.Bxd7 Qh8+-)* 35...Qxd7 36.Qxd7+ Kb8 37.Bc6 f5 38.Qd8#]

30...Qe7 31.Qh8 e5 32.Rxc8 Rxc8 33.Qxc8 exd4 Weighted Error Value: White=1.01/Black=2.43 **34.Qc6+ 1-0**

133 **C11**

□ **Aktinia22** **2691**

■ **MothToTheFlame** **2685**

Blitz 16.02.2025

[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.d4 Nf6 2.Nc3 e6 3.e4 d5 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 Be7 8.Nf3 0-0 9.a3 f6 10.h4**

[10.b4 fxe5 11.fxe5 cxd4 12.cxd4 Nb6 13.h4 Rxf3 14.gxf3 Bxh4+ 15.Kd2 Bd7 16.Bb2 Nc4+ 17.Kc1 Be8 18.Bh3 Bg6 19.Bxe6+ Kh8 20.Qg1 Bd3 21.Qg4 Bg5+ 22.f4

Bh6 23.Rh3 Bxe2 24.Qxe2 Nxb2 0-1 Duda,J (2757)-Firouzja,A (2728) Norway Chess 8th 2020 (1)]

10...Qa5N 0.26/20

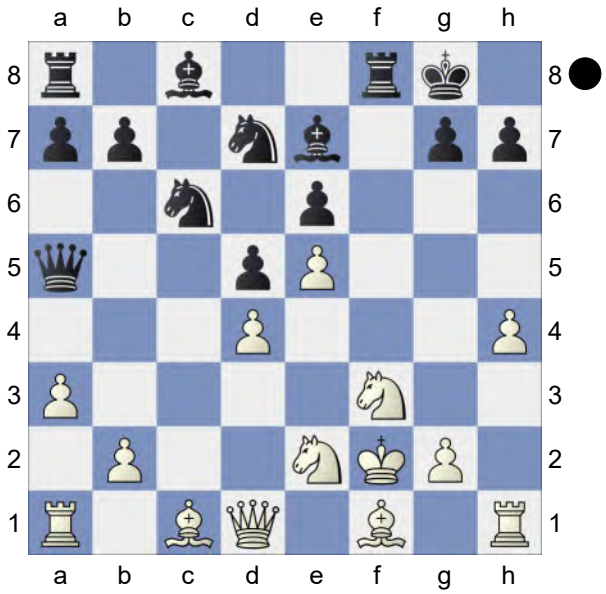
[10...a5 -0.27/20 11.Ng3 Qb6 12.Bd3 cxd4 13.Bxh7+ Kxh7 14.Ng5+ Kg8 15.Qh5 fxg5 16.hxg5 Ndxe5 17.fxe5 Nxe5 18.g6 Nxg6 19.Qxg6 dxc3 20.Qh7+ Kf7 21.bxc3 Ke8 22.Ra2 Bd7 23.Rb2 Qc7 24.Ne2 Qe5 25.Rxb7 Bc6 0-1 Duda,J (2726)-Kuzubov,Y (2625) AI Cup Div 2 L rapid 2023 (2.1) 26.Qg6+ Kd8 27.Rb1 Kd7 28.Rh7 Rh8 29.Bf4 Qf5 30.Qxf5 exf5 31.Rxh8 Rxh8 32.Kf2 Bxa3 33.Nd4 Bc5 34.Be3 Bxd4 35.Bxd4 a4 36.Bxg7 Ra8 37.Rd1 Ke6 38.Re1+ Kf7 39.Bd4 a3 40.c4 dxc4 ½-½ Duda,J (2731)-Grischuk,A (2745) Speed Chess Q2 KO blitz 2022 (1.9) 41.Re5 Be4 42.g4 a2 43.gxf5 Bd3 44.Ba1 c3 45.Bxc3 a1Q 46.Bxa1 Rxa1 47.Ke3 Bc4 48.Kf4 Rf1+ 49.Kg5 Rg1+ 50.Kf4 Kf6 51.Rc5 Rf1+ 52.Ke4 Ba2 53.Rc6+ Kg5 54.Rg6+ Kh5 55.Ke5 Bb1 ½-½ Ferri,S (2731)-Ernst,H (2745) (m/1) 76/12 Las Vegas 1999 (1.9)]

11.Kf2 -0.78/21

[11.Be3= 0.26/20]

11...cxd4∓ 12.cxd4 fxe5 Black is more active. **13.fxe5**

(Diagram)



Ndxe5! 14.dxe5 Nxe5 15.Rh3? -5.68/22

[15.Kg3!∓ -0.54/23 Qb6 16.Nxe5 Qf2+ 17.Kg4 *(17.Kh2? Qxh4+ 18.Kg1 Bc5+-+)* 17...h5+ Decoy 18.Kxh5 Qf5+ 19.Bg5 Rf6 20.Nf7 g6+ 21.Kh6 Bf8#]

15...Bc5+ -2.51/23

[⌓15...Ng4+ -5.68/22 16.Kg1 e5]

16.Kg3-+ Nxf3 0.01/19

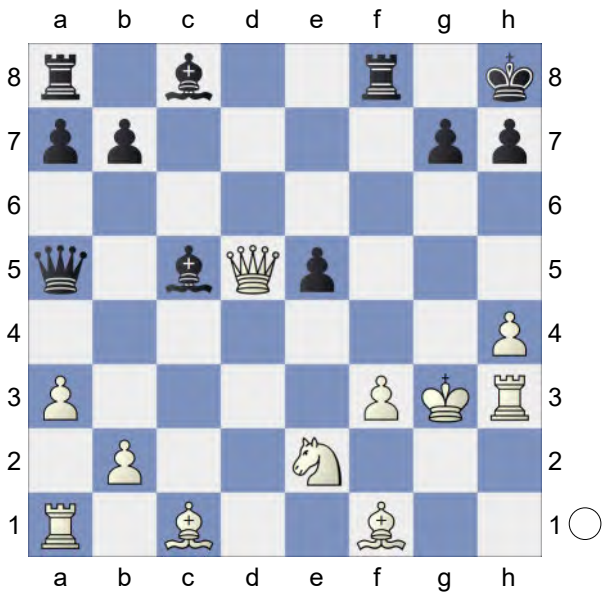
[16...Qc7!-+ -2.80/24 (→ ...Ng4+) 17.Nxe5 Qxe5+ 18.Nf4 Bd6]

17.gxf3= e5? 2.04/27

[17...Qb6= -0.01/19 and Black has nothing to worry.]

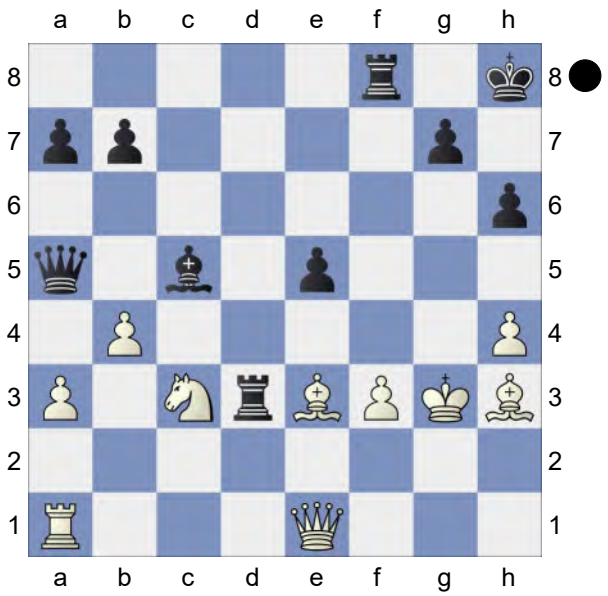
18.Qxd5++- Kh8

(Diagram)



19.Nc3! -0.38/24 **Rd8?** 2.46/24
[19...e4∓ -0.38/24 stays ahead. 20.f4 Qb6]
[19...Bxh3 20.Kxh3]
20.Qe4 Black must now prevent b4.
[20.Qxe5? Bd6-+]
20...Rd4 21.Qe1 -0.01/18
[21.Qxe5? Bd6-+]
[21.Qe2!± 1.08/24]
21...Bxh3= 22.Bxh3 -0.61/26
[22.Kxh3= 0.01/25 Rf8 23.Kg2]
22...Rf8 0.01/25
[Black should play 22...e4∓ -0.61/26 23.Bf4 *(23.fxe4 Bd6+ 24.e5 Rd3+ 25.Kg2 Bxe5-+)* 23...exf3]
23.Bg5 -0.51/26
[23.Qe2= 0.01/25]
23...h6!∓ Threatens to win with ...Qb6. Some like it hot Black continues to play with concentration. **24.Be3?** -3.96/29
[24.Ne4∓ -0.46/22 Qxe1+ 25.Rxe1 hxg5 26.Nxc5 gxh4+ 27.Kf2 Rd2+ 28.Re2]
24...Rd3-+ 25.b4

(Diagram)



Qc7
[25...Rxe3? 26.Qxe3 *(26.bxa5 Rfxf3+ 27.Kg2 Rxe1∓)* 26...Bxb4 27.Ne4+- *(27.axb4 Qxa1 28.Qxe5 Rd8=)*]
26.bxc5? -11.46/21
[26.Nd5 -3.71/24 Rxd5 *(26...Qf7 27.bxc5 Qxf3+ 28.Kh2∓)* 27.Bxc5 *(27.bxc5 e4+ 28.Kg2 exf3+ 29.Kh1 Re8∓)* 27...e4+ 28.Kg2 Rxf3 29.Bg4]
26...e4+ 27.Kg2 Rxf3? -2.20/21
[27...exf3+ -11.04/24 28.Kh1 f2]
28.Bf2? -8.64/27
[28.Nxe4? Rdxe3-+ *(28...Rfxe3? 29.Qf1-+)*]
[28.Nd1 -2.20/21 Qf7 29.Rb1]
28...Rxh3 29.Nxe4 Qh2+
[29...Rxa3 30.Bg3 Rhxg3+ *(30...Rxa1 31.Qxa1 Rxg3+ 32.Nxg3=)* 31.Nxg3 Rxa1 32.Qxa1 Qxc5 33.Qd1=]
30.Kf1 Qh1+
[30...Rxa3 31.Rxa3 Rxa3 32.Nd2 Qh3+ 33.Kg1∓]
31.Bg1 Rde3 -16.28/29
[⌓31...Rhf3+ -#23/31 32.Qf2 Qh3+ *(32...Rxf2+? 33.Nxf2 Qf3 34.a4-+)*

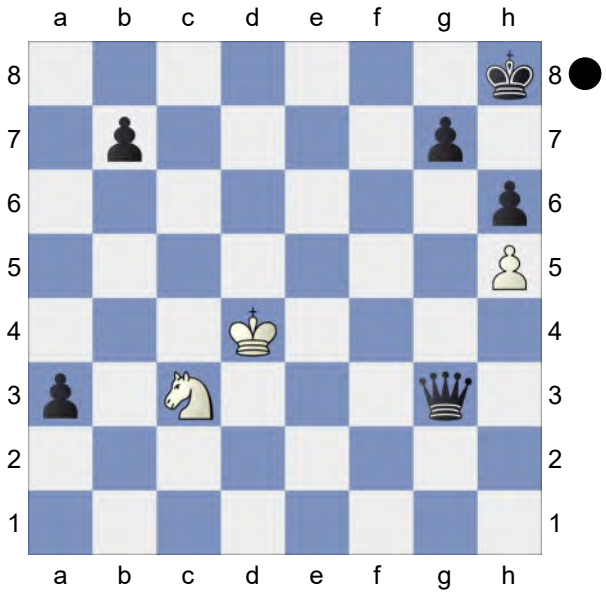
33.Ke1 Rxf2 34.Nxf2 Qxh4 35.Kf1 Rg3 36.Rd1 Qc4+ *(36...Rxa3? 37.Re1-+)* 37.Rd3 Rxd3 38.Nxd3 Qxd3+ 39.Ke1 a5 *(39...Qxa3? 40.Ke2-+)* 40.a4 Qe4+ 41.Kf2 Qd4+ *(41...Qxa4? 42.Ke3-+)* 42.Kg2 Qxa4 43.Kf3 Qd1+ 44.Kg2 Qe2+ 45.Kh3 a4 46.Kg3 a3 47.c6 bxc6 48.Kf4 Qf1+ 49.Ke5 Qxg1 50.Ke6 a2 51.Kd7 a1Q *(51...a1B 52.Kd6 Qb6 53.Kd7 Be5 54.Ke7 Qd4 55.Ke8 Bf6 56.Kf8 Qa7 57.Ke8 Qe7#)* 52.Kxc6 Qf6+ 53.Kc7 Qgb6+ 54.Kd7 Qfe6#]

32.Nf2 Rhf3 33.Qxe3 Qh3+ 34.Ke2 Rxe3+ 35.Kd2 Qf3 36.Re1 Rxe1 -10.33/5

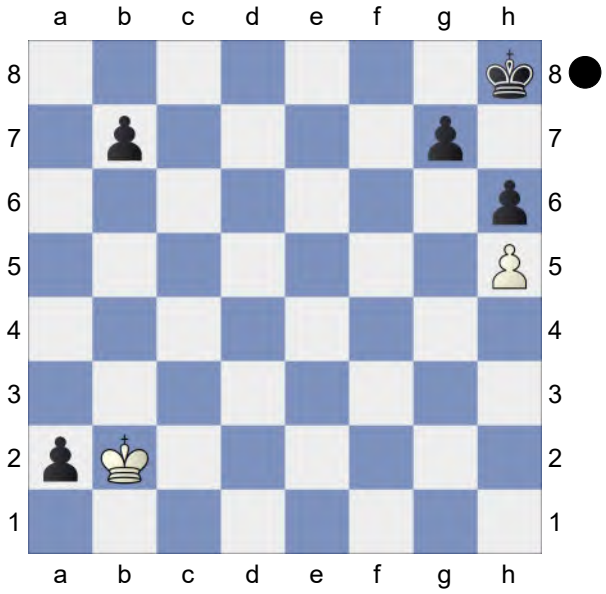
[⌓36...Rxa3 -#20/25 37.Re4 Ra2+ 38.Ke1 Ra1+ 39.Kd2 Rxg1 *(39...Ra2+? 40.Ke1-+)* 40.Re6 Qxf2+ 41.Re2 Qd4+ *(41...Qxh4 42.Re8+ Kh7 43.Rf8 Qd4+ 44.Ke2 Qe4+ 45.Kd2 Rg2+ 46.Rf2 Rxf2+ 47.Kc3 Rc2+* Skewer *48.Kb3 Qc4+ 49.Ka3 Ra2#)* 42.Kc2 Rg3 *(42...Qxc5+ 43.Kd2 Qd4+ 44.Kc2 Rg3 45.Rh2 Qc3+ 46.Kd1 Rd3+ 47.Ke2 Rd2+* Skewer *48.Kf1 Qc1#)* 43.Re8+ Kh7 44.Rf8 Rc3+ *(44...Qxc5+ 45.Kd2 Qxf8 46.Ke1 Rg2 47.h5 Qf2+ 48.Kd1 Rg1#)* 45.Kb1 Qb4+ 46.Ka2 Ra3#]

37.Kxe1 Qxa3 38.Ke2 Qxc5 39.Nd3 Qxg1 40.Nf2 Qg2 (→ ...a5) **41.Ke3 a5** (→ ...a4) **42.h5 a4 43.Ne4 a3 44.Nc3 Qg3+ 45.Kd4**

(Diagram)



Qxc3+ -12.53/16 **46.Kxc3** Endgame KP-KP. Black is 3 pawns up. **46...a2 47.Kb2**



g6! 48.Kxa2

[48.hxg6 h5]

48...gxh5 49.Kb3 h4 50.Kc3 h3 51.Kd3 h2 52.Kd4 h1Q 53.Ke5 Qg2 54.Kd4 h5 55.Ke5 h4 56.Kd4 h3 57.Ke5 h2 58.Kd4 h1Q 59.Ke5 Qh6 60.Kd4 Qgg5 61.Kc3 Qhh4 62.Kb2 Qgg3 63.Kc1 Qhh2 64.Kd1?? -#1/6

[64.Kb1= 0.00/6 Qgg1#]

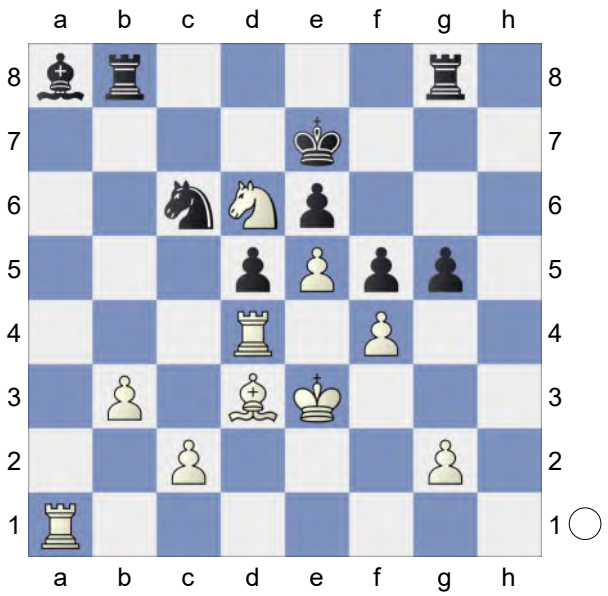
Weighted Error Value: White=1.89/

Black=1.01 **64...Qgg1#**
0-1

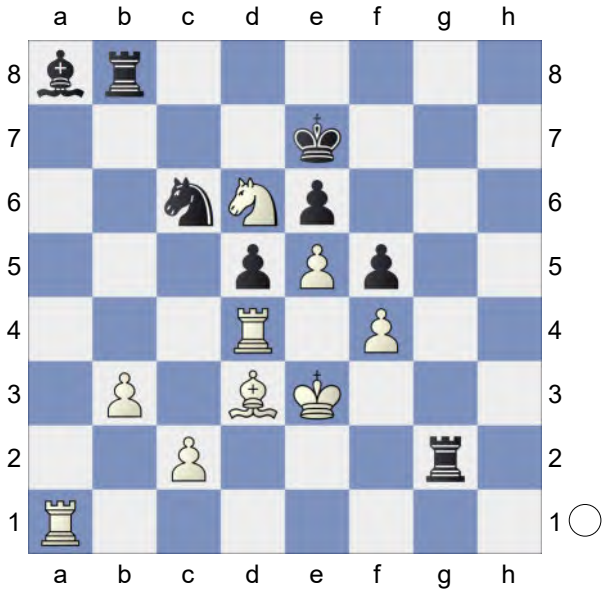
134 **C11**
□ **Van Foreest,Jorden** **2691**
■ **Bacrot,Etienne** **2658**
26th Sigeman & Co 2021 (5.1) 27.09.21
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.a3 cxd4 9.Nxd4 Bc5 10.Qd2 0-0 11.Be2**
[11.0-0-0 Rb8 12.h4 Bxd4 13.Bxd4 b5 14.Rh3 Qc7 15.b4 f6 16.exf6 Nxd4 17.Qxd4 Rxf6 18.Ne2 Nb6 19.Rc3 Nc4 20.g3 Bd7 21.Ng1 Be8 22.Re1 a5 23.Nf3 axb4 24.axb4 Qe7 25.Rb3 Ra8 1-0 Esipenko,A (2714)-Bacrot,E (2642) 151/99 Berlin 2022]
11...Qc7 The position is equal. **12.0-0 b5N**
[12...b6 13.Nxc6 Qxc6 14.b4 Bxe3+ 15.Qxe3 Bb7 16.Bd3 d4 17.Qe4 Qxe4 18.Nxe4 Bd5 19.Ng5 g6 20.Nf3 Bxf3 21.Rxf3 b5 22.Be4 Rad8 23.Rd3 Nb6 24.Bb7 Na4 25.Bxa6 Nc3 26.Bb7 Ne2+ 27.Kf2 ½-½ Giri,A (2764)-Firouzja,A (2749) 83rd Tata Steel Masters 2021 (12.4) Nxf4 28.Rd2 d3 29.c3 Ne2 30.Ke3 Nxc3 31.Rxd3 Rxd3+ 32.Kxd3 Na4 33.Rc1 Rd8+ 34.Ke2 Kg7 35.Bc6 Rb8 36.Rc2 Kf8 37.Kd2 Ke7 38.Kc1 f6 39.exf6+ Kxf6 40.Kb1 Ke5 41.Ka2 Kd4 42.Kb3 ½-½ Grube,J (2764)-Gazi,M (2749) Kemeri International-01 1937 (12.4)]
13.Bf3 Nxd4 14.Bxd4 Bxd4+ 15.Qxd4 Bb7 16.Be2 Qc5 17.Rad1 Rfc8 18.Qxc5 Nxc5 19.h4 Rab8 20.h5 Ba8 21.Rd4 f6 22.Bg4 f5 23.Be2 Kf7 0.74/23
[23...g6⩲ 0.32/22]
24.Kf2± Nd7 0.89/22
[24...Bc6⩲ 0.52/22]
25.Ke3 0.46/23
[25.g4± 0.89/22]
25...Nb6 26.Bd3 0.26/23
[26.Rd2⩲ 0.68/22 is more appropriate.]
26...g6 0.84/25
[26...Nc4+= 0.26/23 27.Bxc4 Rxc4]
27.Rh1 0.01/22
[27.Ne2± 0.84/25]
27...Rg8 0.79/23
[27...Nc4+= 0.01/22 remains equal. 28.Bxc4 bxc4]
28.hxg6+ hxg6 29.b3 0.50/23
White has more active pieces.
[29.Rh7+± 0.86/25 Rg7 30.Rxg7+ Kxg7 31.b3]
29...Nc8? 2.99/27
[Black should play 29...Rh8⩲ 0.50/23 30.Rxh8 Rxh8]
30.a4+- Na7 31.axb5 axb5 32.Ra1 Nc6 33.Nxb5! g5
[33...Nxd4 34.Kxd4 Ke7 35.Nd6±]
34.Nd6+ 1.47/27
[34.g3+- 2.61/28]
34...Ke7±

(Diagram)

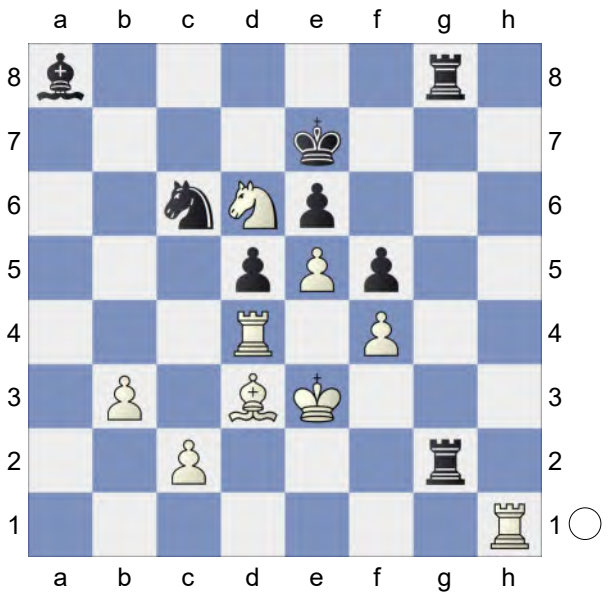


...gxf4+ is the strong threat. **35.g3 gxf4+ 36.gxf4 Rg2**



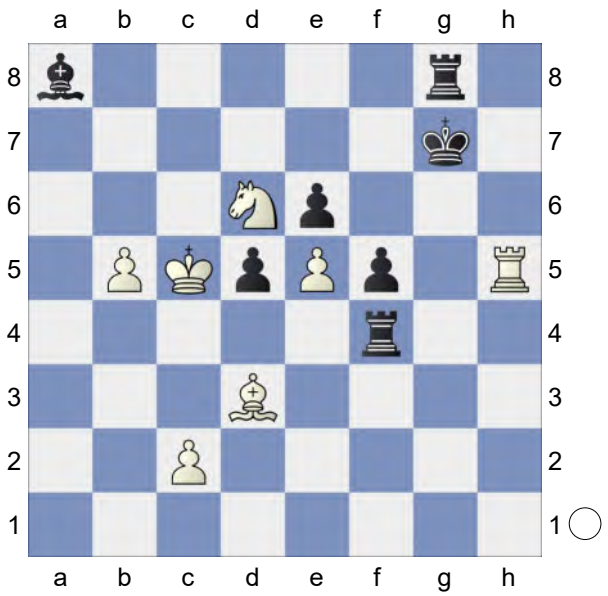
37.Rh1! Repels Rbg8 **37...Rbg8**

(Diagram)

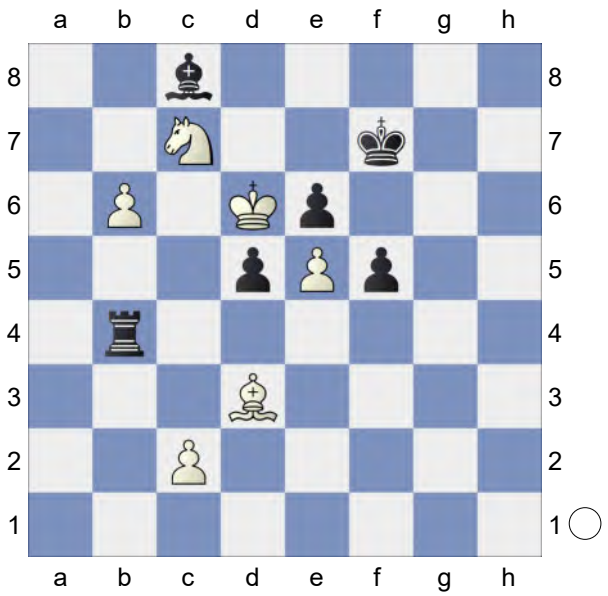


38.Rh3 0.35/24
[38.Rh7+!+- 2.05/28 Kd8 39.Nf7+ Kc8 40.Rh3 *(40.Nd6+ Kb8±)*]
38...Nxd4?? 4.46/26
[38...R8g4!± 0.35/24]
39.Kxd4+- R2g3 40.Rh5 b4 would now be deadly.
[40.Bxf5 Rxh3 41.Bxh3 Rh8∓]
40...R3g4? 5.61/26
[40...R8g4 3.49/23 is a better defense. 41.Kc5 d4]
41.Kc5
[41.Rh7+ R8g7 42.Rh8 Rg8± *(42...Rxf4+? 43.Kc5+-)*]
41...Kf8
[41...Rxf4? 42.Rh7+]
42.b4 2.36/21
[42.Rh7 R4g7 43.Rh5 Rc7+ 44.Kb6 Rc6+ 45.Ka5 *(45.Ka7 Rc7+ 46.Kb8 Rd7±)* 45...Kg7± *(45...Ke7? 46.Rh7+ Kd8 47.Ra7+-)*]
[⌓42.Nb5 4.65/22 Rxf4 43.Nd4]
42...Kg7 43.b5 1.41/20
[43.Nb5+- 3.12/20 is more deadly.]
43...Rxf4? 3.56/21
[43...Rb8± 1.41/20]

(Diagram)



44.Rg5+! Kh7 45.Rxg8 Kxg8 Endgame KRB-KBN **46.Ne8?** 0.21/23
[46.b6 Kf8=]
[Better is 46.Nc8+- 2.63/21]
46...Kf7!= 47.Nc7 White has compensation. **47...Bb7 48.Kd6 Bc8** 3.58/24
[48...Rh4!± 0.37/22]
49.b6+- Rb4 6.32/27
[49...Ra4 2.28/22 50.b7 Bxb7 51.Nxe6 Ra8]



50.Nb5! White is clearly winning.
50...Kf8 51.Kc5
[51.Kc7 Ba6 52.Nc3 *(52.b7 Bxb7 53.Kxb7 f4=)* 52...Bxd3 53.cxd3 Rb3+-]
51...Ra4 52.Nd6 Ra8 53.Nxc8 Rxc8+ 54.Kd6 Rd8+ 55.Kc7
[Weaker is 55.Kxe6 f4=]
55...Ke7 56.b7 Rd7+ 57.Kb6 Rd8 Weighted Error Value: White=0.29 (precise) /Black=1.07 **58.Bb5**
1-0

135 **C11**
□ **Fedoseev,Vl3** **2691**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2712**
FIDE Grand Swiss 2023 (9.4) 03.11.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Be7 8.a3 0-0 9.Qd2**
[9.dxc5 Bxc5 10.Bxc5 Nxc5 11.b4 Nd7 12.Bd3 h6 13.0-0 a5 14.b5 Ne7 15.Na4 b6 16.c3 Bb7 17.Bc2 Rc8 18.Qd3 g6 19.Rad1 h5 20.Qe3 Kg7 21.h3 Rh8 22.Qf2 Nc5 23.Nxc5 Rxc5 ½-½ Cardona,J (2104)-Laudati,L (2054) corr 234. NEC F-00001 2024]
9...a6N
[9...b6 10.g3 Kh8 11.h4 f6 12.exf6 Nxf6 13.Bh3 Bd7 14.Rd1 cxd4 15.Nxd4 e5 16.Nxc6 Bxc6 17.fxe5 d4 18.exf6 Bxf6 19.0-0 dxc3 20.Qxd8 Raxd8 21.Rxd8 Rxd8 22.b3 Re8 23.Bf2 Be4 24.Re1 0-1 Kavakul,M (2765)-Molina,R (2823) 1883-4 corr (5) Re7 25.Rc1 h5 26.Bg2 Bf5 27.Bf3 g6 28.a4 Kh7 29.b4 g5 30.a5 g4 31.axb6 axb6 32.Bc6 Re2 33.Bxb6 Be5 34.b5 Kg7 35.Ba5 Rxc2 36.Rxc2 Bxc2

37.Kf2 Bd3 38.Ke3 Bg6 39.Be4 0-1 Ivanchuk,V (2765)-Carlsen,M (2823) Grand Slam Final 4th 2011 (5)]

10.dxc5 10.Be2 is vanishing. 10.Le2 scheint zu verschwinden. **10...Nxc5**

11.Rd1 b5N 0.40/19

[Vorgänger: 11...b6 0.97/19 11...Qc7 0.06 12.Be2 0.26/18 *(12.b4± 0.97/19)* 12...a5 0.70/19 *(12...Qc7= 0.26/18)* 13.0-0± Ba6 1.15/19 *(13...Bb7± 0.52/17)* 14.Bxa6± Rxa6 15.f5 Ra8 2.02/18 *(15...Ra7± 0.93/16)* 16.Qf2 Kh8 17.Qg3 Ng5 is the strong threat. Rc8 2.42/18 ;½-½ Nabaty,T (2650)-Kovalenko,I (2659) Lake Sevan Martuni 2017 (2) *(17...Nd7± 1.32/16 18.Kh1 Qb8)*]

[11...Qc7= 0.00/20]

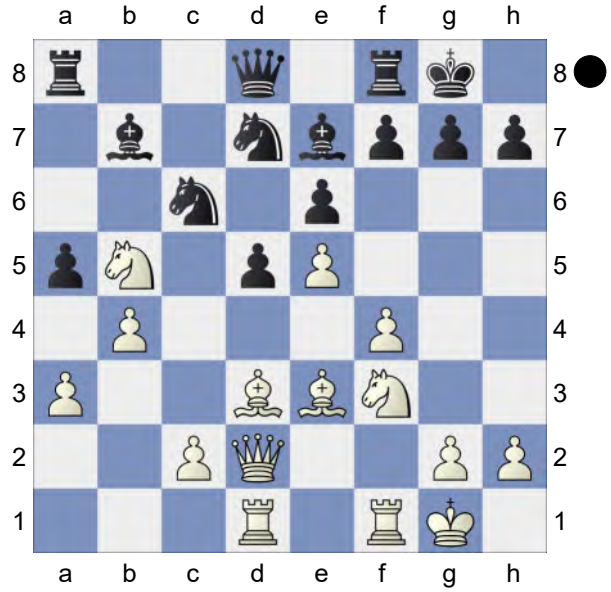
12.b4 -0.01/20

[12.Qf2± 0.40/19 should be considered. Nd7 13.Bd3]

12...Nd7 13.Bd3 Bb7 0.73/22

[13...a5= -0.19/20 remains equal.]

14.0-0 White is more active. **14...a5 15.Nxb5**



axb4 16.axb4 Nxb4 17.Be2 0.01/17

[17.Nbd4± 0.68/18]

17...Qa5 0.48/19

[17...Na6= 0.01/17]

18.c3 Nc6 19.c4 -0.29/19

[White should try 19.Kh1± 0.39/18]

19...Qxd2 0.14/21

[⌓19...Bb4! -0.29/19 20.Qc2 Ne7]

20.Rxd2= The position is equal. **20...Bb4! 21.Rb2 dxc4 22.Bxc4 Bc5 23.Bxc5 Nxc5 24.Rc1 Ne7 25.Nfd4 Ba6 26.Be2 Na4 27.Rbb1 Bxb5 28.Nxb5 Rab8 29.Ra1 Nb6 30.g3 Nbd5 31.Nd6 g6 32.Bf3 Rb3 33.Kg2 Rb2+ 34.Kh3 Rb3 35.Rf1 Rd3 36.Be4 Re3 37.Rf2 Nc3** Excellent horsemanship. **38.Bc2 Rb8 39.Ra7**

[39.Nc4!? Re2□ 40.Rxe2 Nxe2 41.Ra7±]

39...Nc8 40.Rb7

[Reject 40.Rxf7 Nxd6 41.Re7 Nf7 42.Rxe6 Nd5∓]

40...Rxb7 41.Nxb7 Kf8 42.Nc5 Nb6 43.Kg2 Ncd5 44.Bd3 Re1 45.Rb2 Weighted Error Value: White=0.16 (very precise) /Black=0.11 (very precise) **45...Kg7**

½-½

136 **C11**

□ **Weiawaga** **2690**

■ **SaxtonEngine** **2735**

Blitz 11.02.2025

[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 7min+1sec C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.d4 e6 2.e4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Be7 7.Be2 Nc6 8.Be3 0-0 9.Qd2 b6 10.h4**

[10.0-0 cxd4 11.Nxd4 Nxd4 12.Bxd4 Nb8 13.Bf2 Ba6 14.Bxa6 Nxa6 15.f5 exf5 16.Nxd5 Nb4 17.c4

Rc8 18.a3 Nc6 19.Rfe1 Bc5 20.b4 Bxf2+ 21.Qxf2 Qd7 22.Qh4 Qd8 23.Nf6+ gxf6 24.Rad1 Nxe5 ½-½ Shirov,A (2699)-Volokitin,A (2660) RUS-chT 13th 2006 (11) 25.Rxd8 Rfxd8 26.Qxf6 Ng6 27.h4 h5 28.Rf1 f4 29.g4 Rd3 30.gxh5 Rg3+ 31.Kf2 Nxh4 32.Qxh4 Rxc4 33.Re1 1-0 Praggnanandhaa,R (2602)-Topalov,V (2738) Gibraltar Masters 18th 2020 (6)]

10...a6N

[10...cxd4 11.Nxd4 Nxd4 12.Bxd4 f6 13.exf6 Bxf6 14.0-0-0 Nc5 15.Qe3 Bd7 16.h5 h6 17.g4 Rc8 18.Rhg1 Qc7 19.g5 hxg5 20.h6 Bxd4 21.Rxd4 Ne4 22.Bd3 Qxf4 23.Qxf4 Rxf4 24.Nxe4 dxe4 25.Rxg5 1-0 Predke,A (2550)-Grachev,B (2639) RUS-ch Higher League 69th 2016 (4) Bc6 26.Rxg7+ Kh8 27.Ba6 Rcf8 28.Rd6 e3 29.b3 Bd5 30.Bd3 Be4 31.Rdd7 e2 32.Kd2 e5 33.Bxe4 e1Q+ 34.Kxe1 Rxe4+ 35.Kd2 Rd4+ 36.Rxd4 exd4 37.Rxa7 Rd8 38.Rb7 Rd6 39.Kd3 Kg8 40.h7+ 1-0 Rosenstielke,M (2550)-Vlasak,L (2639) MGL-ch 53rd Ulaanbaatar 2013 (4)]

11.h5 White is slightly better. **11...cxd4 12.Nxd4 Bh4+ 13.Kd1** -0.10/19

[13.Kf1± 0.46/21 Nxd4 14.Bxd4]

13...Bb7= 14.Bd3 Nxd4 0.51/19

[Black should try 14...Be7= -0.14/16]

15.Bxd4± Nc5 16.Qe3 Dodges Ne4. White is more active. **16...Be7 17.g4 Rc8 18.g5 Nxd3** 0.72/18

[18...b5= 0.26/17]

19.cxd3± Qd7 20.a3 0.10/22

[20.Bxb6? d4 21.Bxd4 Bxh1-+]

[Better is 20.Ke2± 0.83/20]

20...b5= 21.Ke1 a5 0.55/22

[21...b4= 0.17/22 22.axb4 Rcd8 *(22...Bxb4 23.Kf1=)*]

22.Kf2± Ba6 23.Rhb1 0.35/19

[23.h6± 0.71/21 hxg7 is the strong threat. g6 24.Kg3]

23...b4 24.axb4 Bxb4 25.Kg3 Qb7 26.h6 g6 27.Rc1 0.15/21

[27.Na2!± 0.66/21]

27...Bb5= 28.Nd1 Rxc1 29.Rxc1 Rc8 30.Nf2 Rxc1 31.Qxc1 Be7 0.70/24

[31...Qc6 0.34/25 might be stronger. 32.Qxc6 Bxc6]

32.Qd2 Black is weak on the dark squares **32...Bd8** 1.38/22

[32...Qc7± 0.35/23]

33.Qc3± Be8 1.29/21

[⌓33...Qc7 0.91/23]

34.Ng4 Bd7 1.80/21

[34...a4± 1.21/23 was necessary.]

35.Bc5 0.92/21

[35.Qa3+- 1.80/21]

35...Qb5 1.87/21

[35...Qc7± 0.92/21]

36.Kh4 0.99/21

[36.Kf2+- 1.87/21]

36...Qa4 2.18/23

[36...Bc6± 0.99/21]

37.b4? 0.53/23

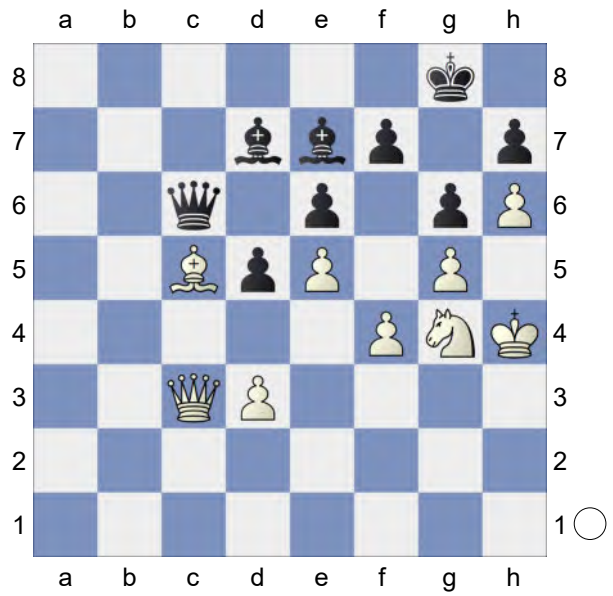
[37.Bd4!+- 2.18/23]

37...axb4± 38.Bxb4 Qc6 39.Bc5 Black cannot hold the game after this.

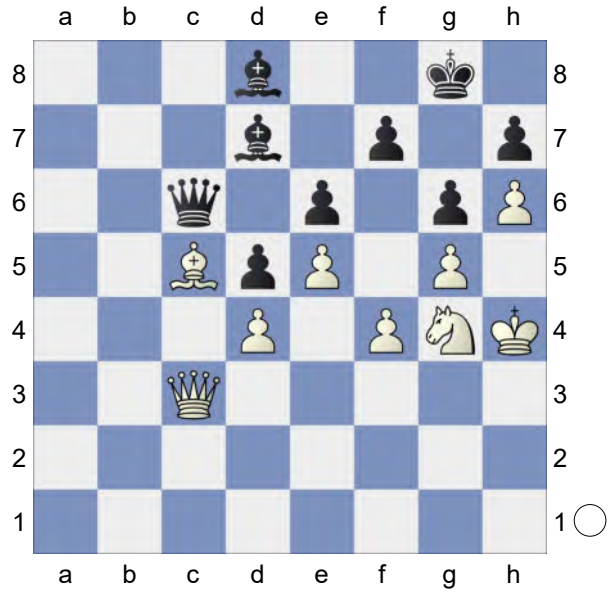
39...Be7? 11.73/27

[39...Kh8± 0.69/21]

(Diagram)



40.d4!+- Bd8



41.Qa5! Deflection **41...Qc8 42.Qa3 Qb8 43.Be7 Qb1 44.Bxd8 Qh1+ 45.Qh3 Qc1 46.Qf3 Kf8 47.Qe3 Qa1 48.Nf6 Bb5 49.Kg3 Ba6 50.Bb6 Ke7 51.Nxh7** Nf6 would kill now. **51...Bf1 52.Nf6 Qb2 53.Qf3 Qc1 54.h7 Qe1+ 55.Kg4 Be2 56.Bc5+**

[And not 56.h8Q Bxf3+ 57.Kxf3 Qf2+ 58.Kxf2= *(58.Kg4? Qg2+ 59.Kh4 Qh2+ 60.Kg4 Qxh8-+)*]

56...Kd8 57.h8Q+ Kc7 58.Bd6+ White mates. **58...Kb7 59.Qb8+ Ka6 60.Qa8+ Kb6 61.Nd7+ Kb5 62.Qb7+ Ka4 63.Nc5+ Ka5** Weighted Error Value: White=0.46/Black=0.94 **64.Bc7# 1-0**

137 **C11**
□ **Robson,R.** **2689**
■ **Sevian,Samuel** **2692**
American Cup Elim rapid (1.2) 17.03.25
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.Ne2 Qb6** 0.64/18

[8...Be7= 0.23/16]

9.Qc1± Be7 10.c3 White is slightly better. **10...0-0 11.h4 f6 12.h5 h6 13.Qd2N** 0.20/19

[13.Rh3± 0.63/17 deserves consideration.

A) 13...Rf7 14.a3 *(14.Qc2 cxd4 15.Bxd4 Qc7 16.exf6 Nxd4 17.Nexd4 Rxf6 18.f5 Nc5 19.Nh4 Rf7 20.Ndf3 e5 21.g4 e4 22.Nd4 Qf4 23.Ng6 Qxg4 24.Qh2 Nd3+ 25.Bxd3 exd3 26.Re3 d2+ 27.Qxd2 Bh4+ 28.Nxh4 Qxh4+* ½-½ Ivic,V (2599)-Di Berardino,D (2472) Olympiad-45 Budapest 2024 (5.13) *)* 14...cxd4 15.cxd4 Na5 16.Qc2 Nc4 17.Bc1 Qa5+ 18.Kd1 fxe5 19.fxe5 Ndb6 20.b3 Bd7 21.Qc3 Qxc3 22.Nxc3 Na5 23.Kc2 Rc8 24.Kb2 Na8 25.Bd3 b5 26.Ne2 Be8 27.Bd2 Nc6 28.Rg3 1-0 Gurel,E (2624)-Vaishali, R (2476) Tata Steel-B 87th 2025 (12);

B) 13...Qa5 14.Kf2 *(14.Bd2 Qd8 15.Qc2 Rf7 16.0-0-0 b5 17.g4 c4 18.Rg3 b4 19.g5 bxc3 20.Bxc3*

fxg5 21.fxg5 hxg5 22.Bh3 Nf8 23.Rdg1 Nh7 24.Qg6 Nf8 25.Qc2 Nh7 26.h6 Rb8 27.Bg4 Qf8 28.Qg6 Bb4 1-0 Santos Latasa,J (2650)-Bluebaum,M (2668) Bundesliga 2324 2023 (7.3)) 14...cxd4 15.cxd4 fxe5 16.fxe5 Ndxe5 17.dxe5 Nxe5 18.Kg1 Ng4 19.Rg3 e5 20.Rxg4 Bxg4 21.Nxe5 Bxh5 22.Nf4 Rac8 23.Qe1 Qxe1 24.Rxe1 Bb4 25.Rb1 d4 26.Bc1 Bf7 27.Nxf7 Rxf7 28.g3 0-1 Aronian,L (2781)-Bluebaum,M (2670) chess24.com (Internet-rapid) 2021]

13...Qa5 14.g3 -0.01/17

[White should play 14.Rh3± 0.55/18]

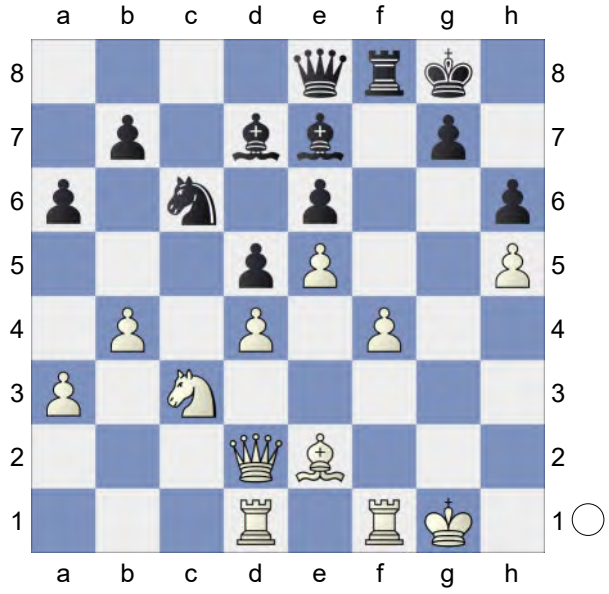
14...cxd4= 15.cxd4 Bb4 Pin **16.Nc3 fxe5 17.Nxe5 Ndxe5 18.fxe5 Rf3 19.a3 Be7?** 1.77/21

[19...Rxg3= -0.01/20 and Black stays safe. 20.Bh3 Be7]

20.Bf4!+- Qb6 21.Rd1 Bd7? 2.71/19

[21...Nxd4± 1.10/19 22.Qxd4 Bc5]

22.Be2 Rxf4 23.gxf4 Rf8 24.b4 Qd8 25.0-0 Qe8



26.f5! Bg5 27.Qd3 exf5 28.Nxd5 Ne7 29.Nf4 Bxf4 30.Rxf4 Nd5 31.Rf2 Qe7 2.63/19

[⌓31...Be6 1.75/18 32.Bf3 Nf4]

32.Qf3! Be6 33.Bc4 Qd7 3.78/18

[33...Rd8 1.75/17 34.Ba2 Qf7]

34.Kh2 1.65/17

[⌓34.Bb3 3.78/18]

34...f4 2.99/19

[⌓34...Qd8 1.65/17 35.Rg2 Qh4+ 36.Kg1 Nf4 37.Bxe6+ Nxe6]

35.Bxd5? -0.01/21

[35.Ba2+- 2.99/19]

35...Bxd5= 36.Qh3 Be6 37.Qh4 And now Rg1! would win. **37...Qc6?** 2.46/25

[37...Qe8= 0.01/21 38.Rdf1 *(38.Rxf4? Rxf4 39.Qxf4 Qxh5+ 40.Kg3 Qxd1-+; 38.d5 Rf5=)* 38...Bc4]

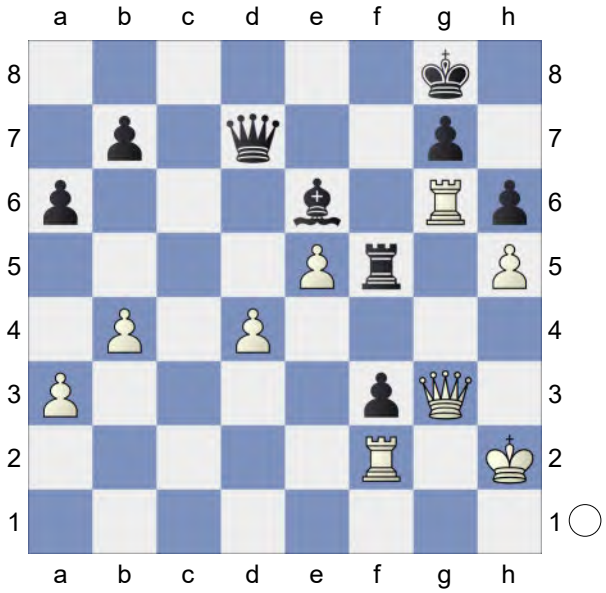
38.Rg1!+-

[38.Rxf4? Qc2+-+]

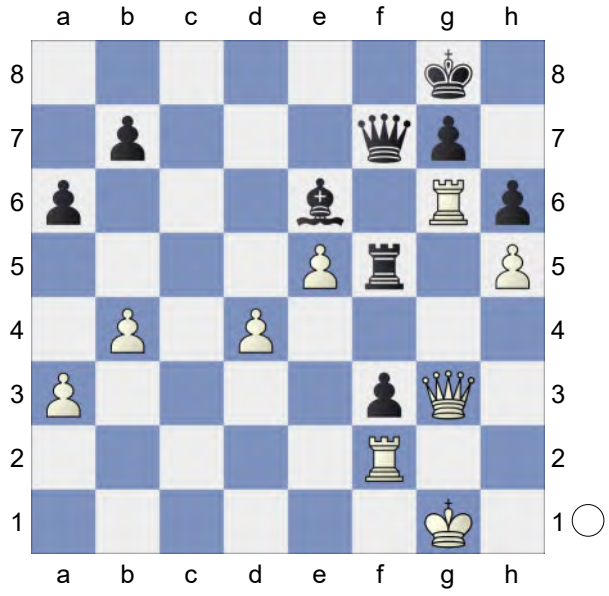
38...f3 5.15/24 Inhibits Rfg2.

[38...Bd5± 1.36/20 is tougher. 39.Qg4 *(39.Rxf4? Qc2+ 40.Kh3 Be6+ 41.Kg3 Qc3+ 42.Kh2 Qd2+ 43.Rg2 Qxf4+-+)* 39...Qc7 40.Rxf4 Rxf4 41.Qxf4 Qc2+ 42.Kg3 Qd3+ 43.Kh4 Be6]

39.Rg6! Qd7 Against Qe7 **40.Qg3 Rf5**



41.Kg1? -0.09/24
[41.Rxh6 Qxd4 42.Rxe6 Rxh5+ 43.Kg1 Qd1+ 44.Rf1 f2+ *(44...Qd4+ 45.Rf2∓)* 45.Kxf2 Rf5+ 46.Ke3 Qb3+ *(46...Rxf1 47.Rd6∓; 46...Qxf1 47.Re8+ Kf7 48.Rb8=)* 47.Kd2 Qxg3∓]
[41.Rxf3 Rxh5+ 42.Kg2 Kh7 43.Rxe6 Qxe6∓]
[41.Qg4!+- 6.94/22 Qf7 42.d5 *(42.Rxh6 Rxe5 43.Qh4 Rd5=)*]
41...Qf7? 1.80/28
[41...Kh8= -0.09/24 42.Qh4 *(42.Rxf3 Qxd4+ 43.Qf2 Qd1+ 44.Qf1 Qxf3∓)* 42...Qf7]



42.Qh4? -0.01/24
[Inferior is 42.Rxh6 Qc7 43.Rg6 *(43.Rxe6?* is the wrong capture. *Qc1+ 44.Rf1 Qe3+ 45.Qf2 Rg5+ 46.Kh1 Rxh5+-+)* 43...Qc1+ 44.Rf1 Qe3+ 45.Rf2 *(45.Qf2 Rg5+ 46.Rxg5 Qxg5+ 47.Kh2 Qxh5+ 48.Kg3 Qg4+ 49.Kh2 Qh5+ 50.Kg1 Qg6+ 51.Kh2 Qh5+=)* 45...Qc1+ 46.Rf1 Qe3+ 47.Rf2 Qe1+ 48.Rf1 Qe3+=]
[42.Rf6!+- 1.80/28 Rxf6 43.exf6 Qxf6 44.Qb8+ *(44.Qxf3 Qxd4 45.Qf8+ Kh7=)* 44...Kh7 45.Qe5 *(45.Qxb7? Qg5+ 46.Kh2 Qh4+ 47.Kg1 Qg3+ 48.Kf1 Bh3+ 49.Ke1 Qg1+* Deflection *50.Kd2 Qxf2+-+)*]
42...Rf4 The position is equal. **43.Qd8+ Kh7 44.Qd6 Bd5** Threatens to win with ...Re4!. **45.e6 Qf5 46.Qe5 Rg4+ 47.Rxg4 Qxg4+=** Endgame KQR-KQB **48.Kh1 Bxe6 49.d5** Some like it hot **49...Qh4+ 50.Qh2 Qxh2+ 51.Kxh2 Bxd5** KR-KB **52.Kg3 Bc6 53.Rd2 g6! 54.Kg4 gxh5+ 55.Kxh5 Kg7 56.Kg4 Kf6 57.Kf4 h5 58.Rd6+ Ke7 59.Rd2 Kf6 60.Rd6+ Ke7 61.Rd2** Weighted Error Value: White=0.25 (precise) / Black=0.45 **61...Kf6**
½-½

138 **C11**
□ **Winkler,Thorsten** **2689**
■ **Tirb,Alexej** **2551**
FRA-chT Top 16 GP Haute (3.2) 03.10.23
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 Qb6 8.Nf3 f6 9.h4 Be7 10.Rh3 0-0 11.a3** White is slightly better.
11...cxd4N 0.36/18
[11...a5= -0.01/20 is more appropriate. 12.b3 Qd8 13.Ng3 h6 14.Be3 f5 15.Bd3 cxd4 16.cxd4 Nb6 17.Nh5 Qe8 18.Nh2 g6 19.Nf6+ Bxf6 20.exf6 Nd7 21.h5 Nxf6 22.hxg6 Qxg6 23.g4 French-7.f4 Qb6 8.Nf3 Survey 2020 Nxg4 24.Nxg4 Qxg4 25.Qxg4+ fxg4 26.Rxh6 Ne7 27.Kd2 Rf7 28.Bf2 Rg7 29.Rah1 g3 30.Rh8+ Kf7 31.Be1 g2 32.Rg1 b6 33.Bh4 Bb7

34.Rxa8 Bxa8 35.Bg5 Nf5 36.Bxf5 exf5 37.Rxg2 Ke6 38.Rh2 ½-½ 6.Nb3 Bb4 7.Bg5 (2620)-10.dc5 Bc5 11.Bd2 (2675) Plzen KB op-A U18 1997 (3.1)]

12.cxd4± Na5 13.Ra2 Qb3 14.Qxb3 Nxb3 15.Be3 Nb6 16.Nd2! Repels Nc4 **16...Nxd2 17.Bxd2 Bd7 18.b3 Rac8 19.a4 Be8 20.h5 Nd7 21.g4 Nb8 22.exf6 Bxf6 23.Bc3** -0.33/19

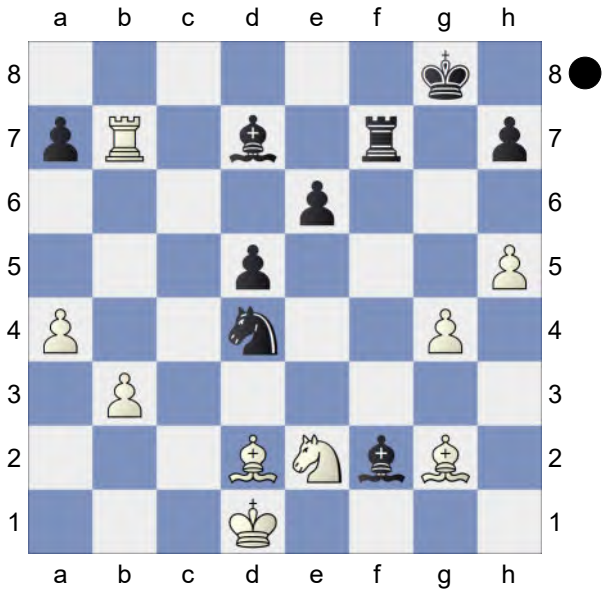
[23.Bb4= 0.19/21]

23...Be7∓ 24.Rf3 g5 25.Bd2 Nc6 26.Rc2 Bd7 27.Bg2! gxf4 28.Rxf4 Bh4+ 29.Kd1 Bf2 30.Rxf8+ Rxf8 31.Rc3 Nxd4 0.42/23

[31...Bh4= 0.00/24]

32.Rc7± Rf7 33.Rxb7 -1.10/22

[33.Nxd4± 0.31/22 stays ahead. Bxd4 34.Rxb7]

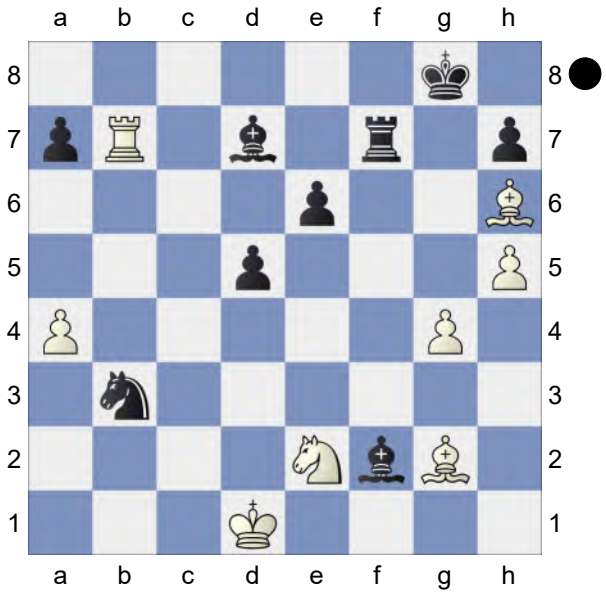


33...Nxb3!∓ 34.Bh6

[34.Rxb3 Bxa4 35.Nc1 Bh4= *(35...Bxb3+ 36.Nxb3 Bg3 37.g5∓)*]

[34.Rb8+ Rf8]

(Diagram)



Threatening mate with Rb8+. **34...Bc5?** 1.32/19 **35.g5** 0.00/22 White is more active.

[35.Rxb3 Bxa4 36.Nc1 Rf2-+ *(36...Bxb3+? 37.Nxb3 Bb6 38.Nd2-+)*]

[35.Rb8+± 1.32/19 Bf8 36.g5 *(36.Bxf8 Rxf8 37.Rb7 Bxa4∓)*]

35...Bxa4? 3.08/21

[35...Re7= 0.00/22 and Black is okay. 36.Bh3 *(36.Rxb3? Bxa4* Pin *37.Nc1 Rb7-+* Pin *)* 36...Bxa4 37.Rb8+ Re8 38.Bxe6+ Kh8 39.Rxe8+ Bxe8]

36.Rb8++- Bf8 37.Nc3 Bd7 6.76/20

[37...Nc5+ 38.Nxa4 Nxa4 39.Bh3+-]

[37...Bc6 2.85/22 38.g6 *(38.Rxb3 Bxh6 39.gxh6 Rf6±; 38.Bxf8 Rxf8 39.Rxb3 Rf5±)* 38...hxg6]

38.g6 3.32/19

[38.Rxb3 Bxh6 39.gxh6 Be8±]

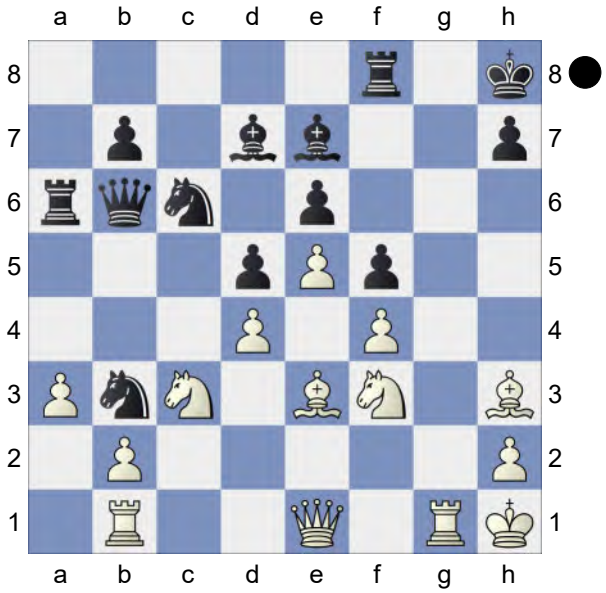
[Not 38.Bxf8 Rxf8 39.Rxb3 Be8±]

[⌓38.Nxd5 6.76/20 White wants to mate with g6. Nc5 *(38...exd5 39.Bxd5* Pin *Bg4+ 40.Ke1)* 39.Ne7+ Pin Kh8 40.Bxf8 *(40.Rxf8+ Rxf8 41.Bxf8 Ba4+ 42.Kc1 Nd7+-)* 40...Ba4+ 41.Kd2 *(41.Ke2 Rxf8 42.Rxf8+ Kg7+-)* 41...Rf2+ 42.Ke3

Rxf8 43.Rxf8+ Kg7 44.Rf6 *(44.Rg8+ Kf7+-)*]
38...hxg6 39.hxg6 Nxd5 would kill now.
39...Rg7 40.Bxg7
[Weaker is 40.Rxb3 Rxg6 41.Bxf8 Kxf8=]
40...Kxg7 41.Rxb3 Kxg6 42.Rb7 Weighted Error Value: White=0.29 (precise) /Black=0.41
1-0

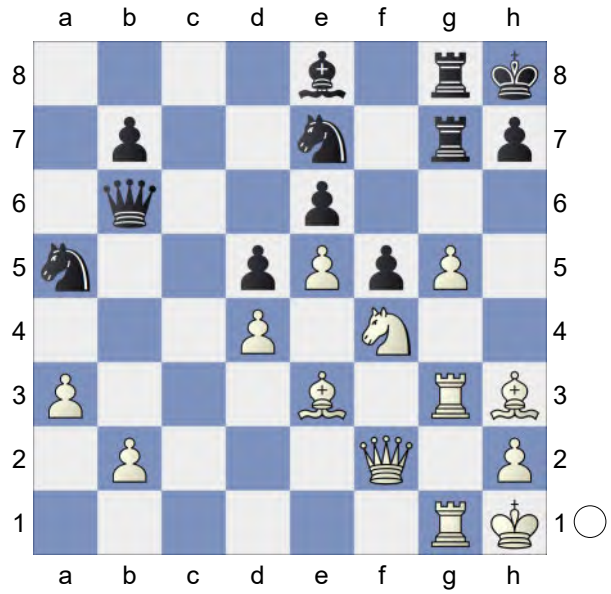
139 **C05**
□ **doreality1991** **2689**
■ **AnonymousGGMM** **2756**
Blitz 25.07.2022
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min C05: French Tarrasch: 3...Nf6 4 e5 Nfd7, 5 f4 and 5 Bd3 sidelines Huebner,R: 'Inf 41/312' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 Qb6 8.Nf3 Be7 9.g3 0-0 10.Bh3 cxd4 11.cxd4 a5** 0.87/17
[11...f6= -0.01/18]
12.0-0± a4 13.Kh1N
[13.a3 Qa7 14.Qc2 f5 15.exf6 Nxf6 16.Kg2 Ne4 17.Be3 Bd7 18.Nc3 Nxc3 19.bxc3 b5 20.Rfe1 Rae8 21.Bf2 Bd8 22.Qe2 Qc7 23.Rab1 Qd6 24.Rxb5 Qxa3 25.Rb7 Qd6 26.Rxd7 Qxd7 27.Bxe6+ Rxe6 ½-½ Ljubojevic,L-Huebner,R 41/312 Wijk aan Zee 1986 28.Qxe6+ Qxe6 29.Rxe6 Na5 30.Ne1 Bc7 31.Re7 Rf7 32.Re8+ Rf8 33.Re7 Rf7 ½-½ Majewski,J-Jaivardhan,R JUG-chT2 1994]
13...f5 White is better. **14.a3** 0.10/19
[14.g4± 1.04/19]
14...Na5 0.59/19
[14...Qb3= 0.10/19 should be considered.]
15.Qxa4 0.21/21
[15.g4± 0.59/19]
15...Ra6 1.17/18
[15...Nb3= 0.21/21 keeps the balance. 16.Qxa8 Nxa1]
16.Qd1 Nb3 1.64/17 Prevents Nd2
[16...Qb3± 1.01/17]
17.Rb1+- Nb8 2.36/19
[17...Nxc1± 1.41/19 18.Qxc1 Qd8]
18.Be3 Bd7 19.Nc3 Nc6 3.12/19
[19...Be8 1.73/17 is a better defense. 20.Rf2 *(20.g4 fxg4 21.Bxg4 Bg6±)* 20...Bh5]
20.g4 g6 3.99/20
[⌓20...fxg4 2.78/18 21.Bxg4 Bc8]
21.gxf5 gxf5 22.Rg1+ Kh8 23.Qe1



Threatening mate with Qg3. **23...Raa8**
24.Qg3 1.35/22 Prevents Rg8
[24.Ng5+- 3.80/21 is the precise move to win.]
24...Rg8± 25.Ng5 0.74/18
[25.Qf2+- 1.66/20]
25...Bxg5? 3.15/18
[25...Rg7± 0.74/18]
26.fxg5+- And now g6! would win.
26...Raf8 27.Ne2→ White goes for the king. **27...Be8 28.Nf4 Ne7 29.Qf2?** 1.01/19 Black is weak on the dark

squares
[29.Bg2+- 2.68/19]
29...Rg7? 2.86/18
[29...Ng6± 1.01/19]
30.Rg3 1.37/19
[30.Rbd1+- 2.86/18 is more deadly.]
30...Rfg8? 3.29/19
[30...Ng6± 1.37/19 31.Nh5 Re7]
31.Rbg1 1.96/19
[⌓31.Rd1 3.29/19]
31...Na5? 4.82/21
[31...Ng6 1.96/19 32.Nh5 Rf7]



32.g6! Bxg6
[32...hxg6 33.Bd2]
33.Bf1 2.16/18
[⌓33.R3g2 4.92/22]
33...Nc4? 4.39/20
[33...Bf7 2.16/18 34.Rxg7 Rxg7 35.Rxg7 Kxg7]
34.Bxc4 dxc4 35.d5 Wards off Qc6. Discovered Attack **35...Nxd5** 25.58/29
[35...Qb5 3.36/19 36.Bd4 *(36.Nxe6? perishes. Qxd5+ 37.R3g2 Qxe6-+; 36.dxe6 c3±)* 36...c3]
Weighted Error Value: White=0.62/Black=1.18 **36.Bxb6**
1-0

140 **C11**
□ **Lynx_BOT** **2689**
■ **bot_adario** **2769**
Rapid 24.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 5min+5sec C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.d4 e6 2.Nc3 d5 3.e4 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.Nf3 Qb6 8.a3 f6 9.exf6 Nxf6 10.Ng3N** -0.70/18
[10.b4= 0.28/17]
[10.g3 Bd6 *(10...cxd4 11.cxd4 Bd6 12.Bg2 0-0 13.0-0 Bd7 14.Bf4 Bxf4 15.Nxf4 Rac8 16.b4 Ne4 17.Qd3 Ne7 18.Rfc1 Bb5 19.Qd1 Nf5 20.Rc5 Nxc5 21.dxc5 Qc6 22.Ng5 Bc4 23.Rc1 Qe8 24.Ngxe6 Rf6 25.Qd2* ½-½ Chitrit,N (2607)-Wirsching,A (2543) (ch) 52/199 United States 1991 (10)*)* 11.Bg2 0-0 12.0-0 Ne4 *(12...Bd7 13.Be3 cxd4 14.Nexd4 Qxb2 15.c4 Ng4 16.Nxe6 Bxe6 17.cxd5 Nxe3 18.fxe3 Qc3 19.dxe6 Qxe3+ 20.Kh1 Qxe6 21.Ng5* French-7... Qb6 8... f6 Variation 5 French Toast: How Harikrishna fries 1..*)* 13.Be3 cxd4 *(13...Qxb2 14.c4 dxc4 15.d5 Ne7 16.Nh4 exd5 17.Bxe4 dxe4 18.Qxd6 Qxe2 19.Qxe7* French-7... Qb6 8... f6 Variation 3 French Toast: How Harikrishna fries 1..*)* 14.Nfxd4 Nxd4 15.Nxd4 Qxb2 16.c4 Nc3 17.Qc1 Qxc1 18.Raxc1 Ne4 19.Nb5 Bb8 20.Rfd1 a6 21.cxd5 exd5 22.Nc7 Bxc7 23.Rxc7 Nf6 24.Rxd5 Nxd5 Mesko,J-Zhak,B URS-ch Soviet Union 1983]
[10.h4 Bd6 11.Qc2 Bd7 12.Bf4 Bxf4 13.Nxf4 cxd4 14.cxd4 Nxd4 15.Nxd4 Qxd4 16.Nd3 Rc8 17.Qd1 Bb5 18.Be2 Bxd3 19.Bxd3 Qe5+

20.Qe2 Qxe2+ 21.Kxe2 0-0 22.f3 e5 23.Bf5 Rc5 24.Rac1 Rc6 0-1 Obidjonov,O (2089)-Al Tarbosh,W (2242) Titled Tuesday intern op 17th Sep Early blitz 2024 (3)]

10...c4 0.01/21

[10...cxd4∓ -0.70/18 11.cxd4 Bd7]

11.Be2 Bd6 12.Qc2 Bd7 13.Be3 -0.30/17

[⌓13.Ng5! 0.29/17]

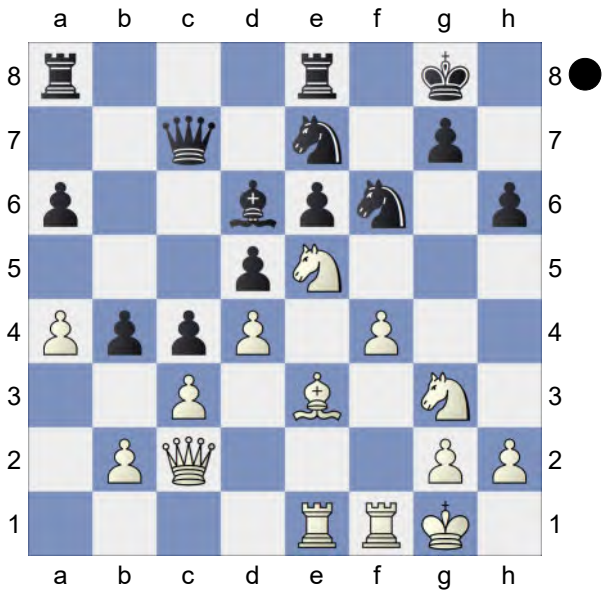
13...Qc7= 14.0-0 0-0 15.Rae1 Be8 16.Qc1 h6 17.Bd1 Bg6 18.Bc2 Bxc2 19.Qxc2 Rfe8 20.a4 a6 21.Nh4 b5 22.Ng6 -0.50/19

[22.Qd1= -0.07/17]

22...b4∓ 23.f4 -0.76/17

[23.Re2!= -0.22/17]

23...Ne7∓ 24.Ne5!



Rab8 -0.23/19

[24...Rf8!∓ -0.79/16]

25.Bd2 -0.69/19

[25.Bc1!= -0.23/19]

25...a5∓ 26.h3 -0.90/19

[White should try 26.Rf2!∓ -0.36/19]

26...b3↑ Black is pushing. **27.Qb1** -0.95/19

[27.Qd1∓ -0.52/19]

27...Rf8 28.Be3 -1.15/21

[28.Rf2∓ -0.62/17]

28...Qc8 -0.78/19

[⌓28...Rbe8 -1.15/21]

29.Qd1 -1.63/18

[29.Bd2∓ -0.78/19]

29...Qe8-+ 30.Bc1 -2.35/19

[30.Bd2∓ -1.31/19]

30...Qxa4 31.f5 exf5 -0.81/17

[31...Nxf5-+ -2.08/22 32.Rxf5 exf5 33.Nxf5 Rbd8 34.Bxh6 gxh6 35.Nxh6+ Kh7 36.Qb1+ Ne4 *(36...Kxh6 37.Qg6#)* 37.Rxe4 Qa2 *(37...dxe4 38.Qxe4+ Kh8 39.Nhf7+ Rxf7 40.Nxf7+ Kg7 41.Nxd6±; 37...Kxh6 38.Rh4+ Kg5 39.Qg6+ Kxh4 40.Qg4#)*]

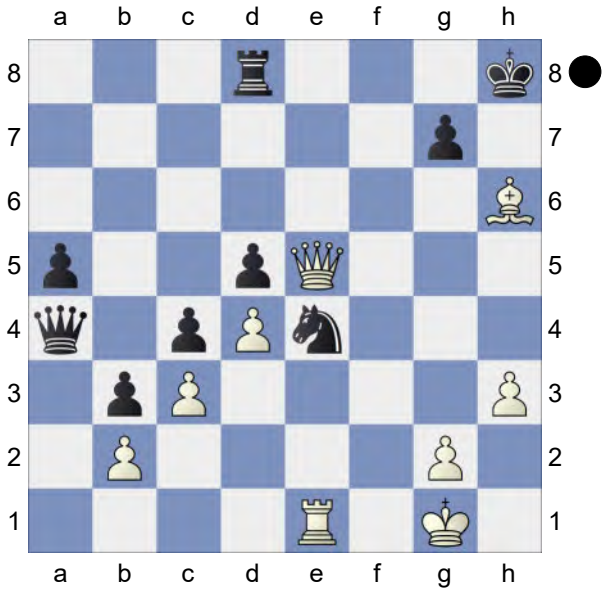
32.Nxf5 -3.67/20

[32.Bxh6∓ -0.81/17 gxh6 33.Nxf5 Nxf5 34.Rxf5]

32...Nxf5 33.Rxf5 Ne4 34.Qg4 Rxf5 35.Qxf5 Bxe5 36.Qe6+ Kh8 37.Qxe5 -4.43/26

[⌓37.dxe5 -2.86/20 Qb5 38.Rf1]

37...Rd8 38.Bxh6



Qd7 39.Bg5? -7.74/20

[39.Rf1 -3.32/21 Kg8 40.Bc1]

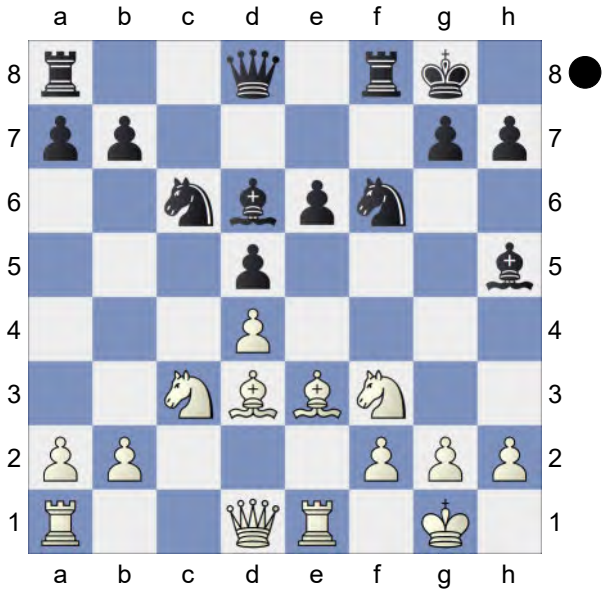
39...Re8 40.Qf4 Kg8 41.Qe3 a4 42.Ra1 White is weak on the light

squares **42...Rf8 43.Bh4 Ra8 44.Ra3 Qd6 45.Qe1 Kh7 46.Qe2 Qh6** Inhibits Qh5. **47.Be1 Ra6 48.Qf3 Qg5** Prevents Qf5+. **49.h4 Qg6**
[49...Qc1? 50.Ra1 Qh6 *(50...Qxa1 51.Qh5+ Rh6 52.Qf5+ Rg6 53.Qh5+ Rh6 54.Qf5+ Kg8 55.Qxd5+ Kf8 56.Qa8+ Kf7 57.Qb7+ Kf6 58.Qxe4=)* 51.Qf5+ Qg6 52.Qxd5-+]
50.g4 Rf6 51.Qe2 Re6 ...Ng5! is the strong threat. **52.Qg2 Nf6 53.Ra1 Qxg4 54.Qxg4 Nxg4** Endgame KRB-KRN. Black is a pawn up. **55.h5 Re2 56.h6 Kxh6 57.Rb1 Nf6 58.Kf1 Rc2 59.Ra1 Rxb2 60.Rxa4 Rc2** (→ ...Kh5) **61.Rb4 Kh5** (→ ...b2) **62.Rb6 b2** -32.29/26
[⌓62...Kg4 -#18/30 63.Rb7 Nh5 64.Kg1 b2 65.Kf1 Kf3 66.Rf7+ Nf6 67.Rb7 Rh2 68.Bf2 Rxf2+ 69.Ke1 Ne4 70.Rf7+ Ke3 71.Rb7 Re2+ *(71...Nxc3* is a self mate. *72.Rb8 b1R+ 73.Rxb1 Nxb1 74.Kd1 c3 75.Ke1 Na3 76.Kd1 Rf1#)* 72.Kf1 Nd2+ *(72...Nxc3 73.Rb8 b1Q+ 74.Rxb1 Nxb1 75.Kg1 c3 76.Kh1 c2 77.Kg1 c1Q#)* 73.Kg1 Nf3+ 74.Kh1 Rh2#]
63.Rb7 g5 -31.06/23
[⌓63...Ne4 -#18/28 64.Kg1 g5 *(64...Nxc3? 65.Bxc3 Rc1+ 66.Kf2-+; 64...Rc1? 65.Rxb2 Rxe1+ 66.Kg2-+)* 65.Rb6 Kg4 *(65...Nxc3? 66.Bxc3 Rc1+ 67.Kg2-+; 65...Rc1? 66.Rxb2 Rxe1+ 67.Kg2-+)* 66.Rb7 Kf3 *(66...Nxc3? 67.Bxc3 Rc1+ 68.Kf2-+; 66...Rc1? 67.Rxb2 Kf3 68.Kh2-+)* 67.Rf7+ Ke2 68.Rb7 Kxe1 69.Rb6 Nxc3 *(69...Rxc3? 70.Rxb2 Rg3+ 71.Kh2-+)* 70.Rf6 b1Q *(70...b1B? 71.Rf1+ Kd2 72.Kh2-+)* 71.Rf1+ Ke2 72.Rxb1 Nxb1 73.Kg2 Rc3 74.Kg1 Kf3 75.Kh1 Kg3 76.Kg1 Rc1#]
64.Rb4 Kg4 65.Rb5 Ne4 66.Rb7 Kf3 67.Rf7+ Ke3 68.Rb7 Kd3 69.Kg1 Nxc3 (→ ...Re2) **70.Bf2 Ne4 71.Kh2 g4 72.Rf7 Rxf2+ 73.Rxf2 g3+ 74.Kh3 gxf2 75.Kg2 b1Q 76.Kh2 Qg1+ 77.Kh3** Weighted Error Value: White=1.00/Black=0.42 **77...Qg3#**
0-1

141 **C11**
□ **EleKtRoMaGnIt** **2689**
■ **FakeBruceLee** **2733**
Blitz 29.10.2020
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min C06: French Tarrasch: 3...Nf6 4 e5 Nfd7 5 Bd3 main lines 60/(388)
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 cxd4 7.cxd4 f6 8.exf6 Nxf6 9.Nf3 Bd6 10.Nc3 0-0 11.Bd3 Nc6 12.0-0 Bd7 13.Bg5 Be8 14.Re1
[14.Qe2 Bf7 15.Rfe1 a6 16.a3 Qc7 17.Bxf6 gxf6 18.g3 Rae8 19.Nh4 f5 20.Qe3 f4 21.Qd2 Bh5 22.Be2 Bxe2 23.Nxe2 f3 24.Nc3 Qg7 25.Re3 Nxd4 26.Rd1 Nf5 27.Nxf5 Rxf5 28.Qd3 Qg4 Belotserovsky,A-Ivanov,S (2505) Sankt_Peterburg 1994 29.Kf1 Bc5 0-1 Cernetskiy,M-Mcmahon,F 139/85 Gibraltar 2019]
14...Bh5N
[14...h6 15.Bh4 Bh5 16.Be2 Qb6 17.Na4 Qc7 18.Nc5 Bxc5 19.dxc5 Ne4 20.Rc1 Qf4 21.Bg3 Qf6 22.Qb3 Bxf3 23.Bxf3 Nd4 24.Qxb7 Nxf3+ 25.gxf3 Qxf3 26.Re3 Qf6 27.Rc2 h5 28.Rxe4 dxe4 29.Qxe4 0-1 Fernandez,J-Crespo,R ARG corr Argentina 1996]
15.Be3 -4.01/16

[15.Rxe6± 0.36/19 keeps the upper hand. Bxf3 16.gxf3 *(16.Qxf3 Nxd4 17.Qh3 Nxe6∓)*]



15...Ng4!-+ Black is winning. **16.Be2?** -7.67/20

[16.h3 -3.51/17 Nh2 Pin 17.Bxh7+ Kh8 *(17...Kxh7 18.Ng5+∓)* 18.Ng5 Bxd1 19.Raxd1]

16...Nxe3 17.fxe3 Qf6? -2.55/19

[17...Bxf3 -7.64/21 18.Bxf3 Qh4]

18.e4? -5.55/19

[18.Nb5 -2.55/19 Bb8 19.h3]

18...Bxf3 19.Bxf3 e5 would now be deadly. **19...Nxd4**

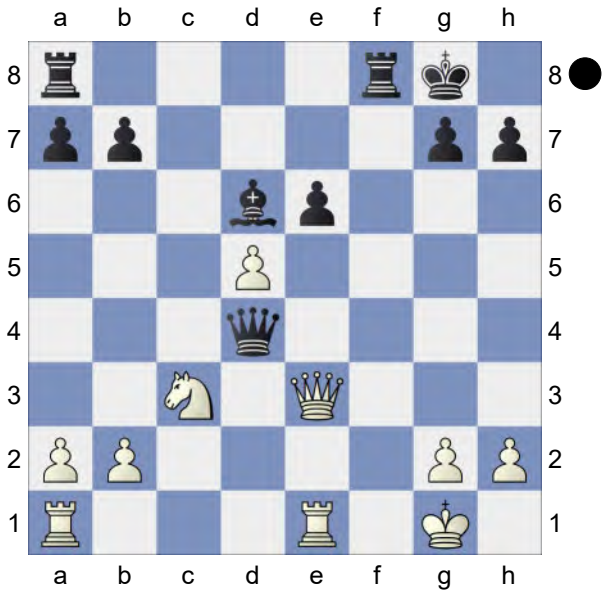
[Not 19...Qxd4+ 20.Qxd4 Nxd4 21.Bd1∓]

20.exd5 -9.23/19

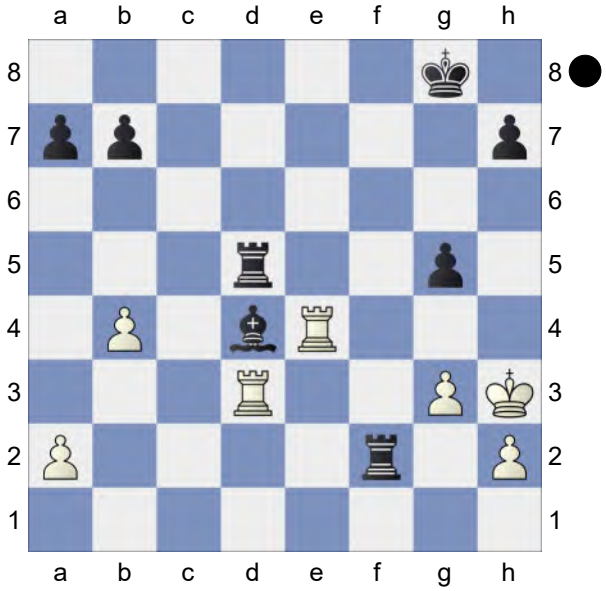
[⌓20.Bg4 -5.16/19 Qf4 21.e5 Bxe5 22.g3]

20...Nxf3+ Overworked Piece **21.Qxf3 Qd4+ 22.Qe3**

(Diagram)



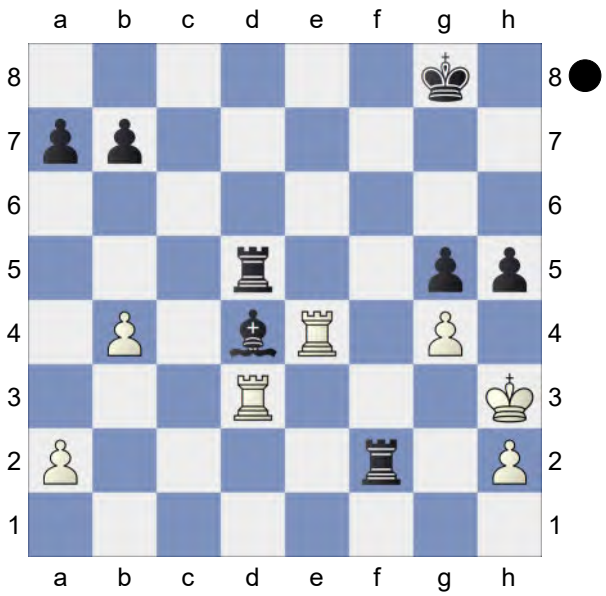
White is weak on the dark squares **22...Qxe3+! 23.Rxe3 Bc5** Pin **24.Rae1 exd5 25.Nxd5 Rae8** Pin **26.b4 Bd4** Pin **27.g3 Re5** Pin **28.Kg2 Rxd5 29.Rd3 Rf2+ 30.Kh3 g5 31.Re4**



h5! And now ...g4+ would win. **32.g4**

[32.Rdxd4 g4+]

(Diagram)

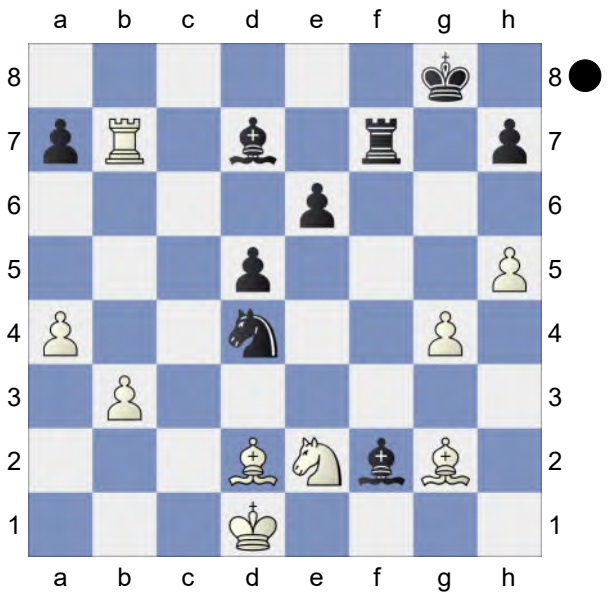


Black took control after the opening. Weighted Error Value: White=1.79/ Black=0.51 **32...Be5!**
0-1

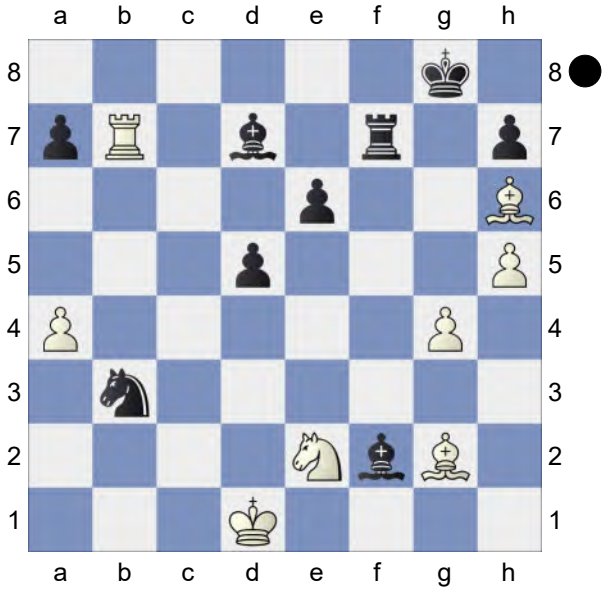
142 **C11**
□ **Grandelius,Nils** **2689**
■ **Kobo,Ori** **2551**
EU-Cup 38th Durres (3.2) 03.10.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 Qb6 8.Nf3 f6** The main line 8...f6 scores better than 8...Be7. Die Hauptvariante 8...f6 punktet besser als 8...Le7. **9.h4 Be7 10.Rh3 0-0 11.a3** The position is equal. **11...cxd4N** 0.34/19
[11...a5= -0.10/18 12.b3 Qd8 13.Ng3 h6 14.Be3 f5 15.Bd3 cxd4 16.cxd4 Nb6 17.Nh5 Qe8 18.Nh2 g6 19.Nf6+ Bxf6 20.exf6 Nd7 21.h5 Nxf6 22.hxg6 Qxg6 23.g4 French-7.f4 Qb6 8.Nf3 Survey 2020 Nxg4 24.Nxg4 Qxg4 25.Qxg4+ fxg4 26.Rxh6 Ne7 27.Kd2 Rf7 28.Bf2 Rg7 29.Rah1 g3 30.Rh8+ Kf7 31.Be1 g2 32.Rg1 b6 33.Bh4 Bb7 34.Rxa8 Bxa8 35.Bg5 Nf5 36.Bxf5 exf5 37.Rxg2 Ke6 38.Rh2 ½-½ 6.Nb3 Bb4 7.Bg5 (2620)-10.dc5 Bc5 11.Bd2 (2675) Plzen KB op-A U18 1997 (3.1)]
12.cxd4± Na5 13.Ra2 Qb3! 14.Qxb3N
[Vorgänger: 14.Nc3 Qxd1+ 15.Kxd1 a6 16.Bd2 Nc4 17.b3 Nxd2 18.Kxd2 fxe5 19.fxe5 b5 20.Nb1 -0.49/21 ½-½ Shytaj,L (2485)-Di Benedetto,D (2231) ITA-chTB 51st 2019 (5.3) *(20.Bd3= 0.16/22)*]
14...Nxb3 15.Be3 Nb6 16.Nd2! Inhibits Nc4. **16...Nxd2 17.Bxd2 Bd7 18.b3 Rac8 19.a4 Be8 20.h5 Nd7 21.g4 Nb8 22.exf6 Bxf6 23.Bc3** -0.24/22
[⌓23.Bb4 0.28/22]
23...Be7 24.Rf3 g5 25.Bd2 Nc6 26.Rc2 Bd7 27.Bg2! gxf4 28.Rxf4 Bh4+ 29.Kd1 Bf2 30.Rxf8+ Rxf8 31.Rc3 Nxd4 0.55/25
[31...Bh4= -0.03/21]
32.Rc7!± Rf7 Strongly threatening ... Nxe2. **33.Rxb7** -0.96/21
[33.Nxd4± 0.36/23 keeps the upper hand. Bxd4 34.Rxb7]

(Diagram)

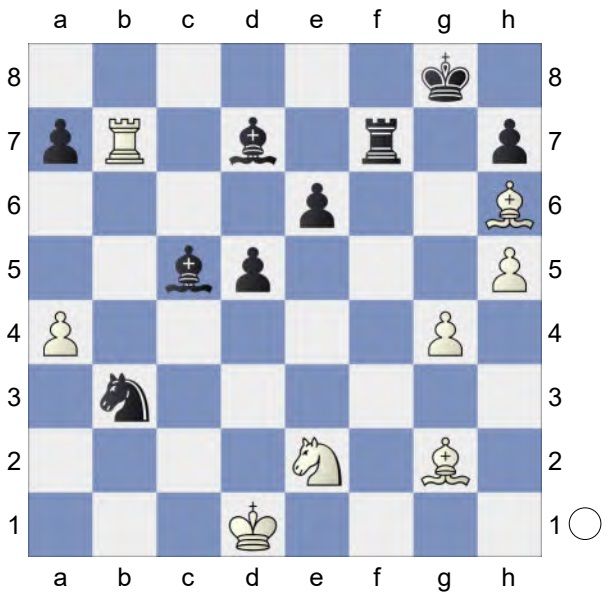


33...Nxb3!∓ 34.Bh6
[34.Rxb3 Bxa4 35.Nc1 Bb6∓ *(35...Bxb3+ 36.Nxb3 Bh4 37.Nd4=)*]
[34.Rb8+ Rf8]



Rb8+ would kill now. **34...Bc5?** 1.26/20

(Diagram)

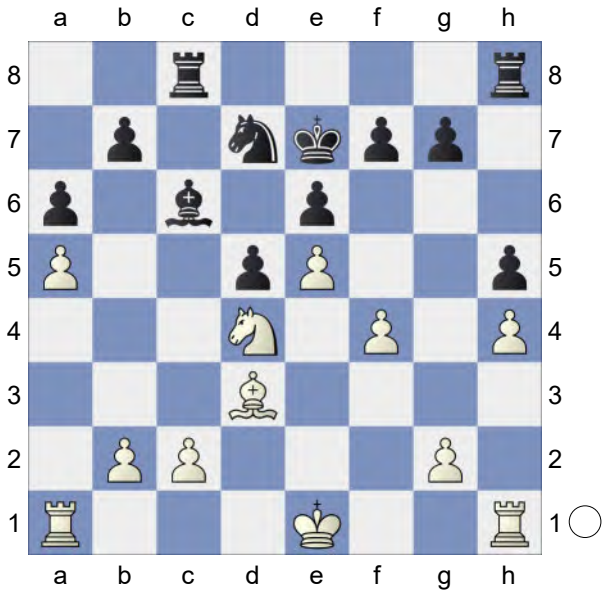


35.g5 -0.01/22 White is more active.
[35.Rxb3 Bxa4 36.Nc1 Rf2-+ *(36...Bxb3+ 37.Nxb3 Bg1 38.g5∓)*]
[White should try 35.Rb8+!± 1.26/20 Bf8 36.g5 *(36.Bxf8 Rxf8 37.Rb7 Nc5∓)*]
35...Bxa4? 3.16/20 A mistake that costs the game.
[35...Re7= -0.01/22 and Black has nothing to worry. 36.Bh3 *(36.Rxb3 Bxa4* Pin *37.Nc1 Rb7-+* Pin *)* 36...Bxa4 37.Rb8+ Re8 38.Bxe6+ Kh8 39.Rxe8+ Bxe8]
36.Rb8++- Bf8 37.Nc3 Bd7 6.86/21
[37...Nc5+? 38.Nxa4 Nxa4 39.Bh3+-]
[37...Bc6 2.85/21 38.g6 *(38.Rxb3 Bxh6 39.gxh6 Rf6±; 38.Bxf8 Rxf8 39.Rxb3 Be8±)* 38...hxg6]
38.g6
[38.Rxb3 Bxh6 39.gxh6 Be8±]
[Not 38.Bxf8 Rxf8 39.Rxb3 Be8±]
38...hxg6 39.hxg6 Rg7 40.Bxg7
[40.Rxb3 Rxg6 41.Bxf8 Kxf8+-]
40...Kxg7 41.Rxb3 Kxg6 42.Rb7
Weighted Error Value: White=0.32/ Black=0.46
1-0

143 **C11**
□ **Van Foreest,Jorden** **2688**
■ **Grischuk,A.** **2778**
GCT Blitz Croatia 2021 (8.5) 10.07.2021
[Kitty Kat]

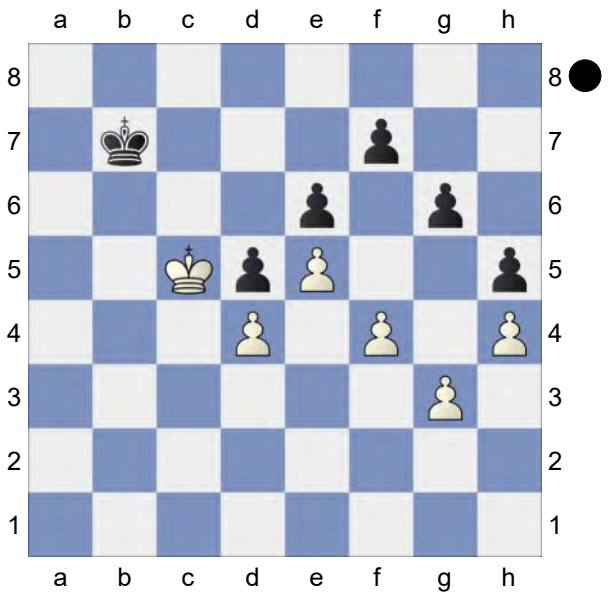
C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.a3 cxd4 9.Nxd4 Bc5 10.Qd2 Nxd4 11.Bxd4 Bxd4 12.Qxd4 Qb6 13.Qxb6 Nxb6 14.Bd3 Bd7** White is slightly better. **15.h4N**
[15.Ne2 Ke7 *(15...f6)* 16.Nd4 g6 *(16...Nc4 17.Bxc4 dxc4 18.Kf2 Rac8 19.c3 h5 20.Rad1 Rhg8 21.Rhe1 Rc5 22.Nf3 Bc6 23.Rd4 Bxf3 24.Kxf3 Rd8 25.Rxd8 Kxd8 26.Rd1+* ½-½ Ivanchuk,V (2619)-Bacrot,E (2640) Djerba Festival Masters 2025 (4.4)*)* 17.Ke2 h5 18.h4 Na4 19.b3 Nc5 20.a4 a5 21.Ke3 b6 22.Rhb1 Rhc8 23.Rc1 Rc7 24.Rd1 Bc8 25.Nb5 Rd7 26.Nd6 Ba6 27.Bb5 Bxb5 28.axb5 Rb8 29.Rd4 Nb7 0-1 Shevchenko,K (2649)-Carlsen,M (2859) MrDodgy Online Inv Finals 3rd blitz 2022 (2.4)]
15...h5 16.a4 Bc6 0.56/22
[16...Rc8= 0.11/22]
17.a5± Nd7 18.Ne2 Ke7 0.97/20
[18...f6± 0.33/20]
19.Nd4± Rac8 1.12/19
[19...f6± 0.68/19 was preferable.]

(Diagram)



20.Kd2! g6 21.b4 Rc7 Black is weak on the dark squares **22.Ra3 Nb8 23.Rc3** 0.45/23
[23.b5± 0.89/26 axb5 24.Rb1 *(24.Bxb5 Bxb5 25.Nxb5 Rc4±; 24.Nxc6+? bxc6 25.Rha1 Na6-+)*]
23...Rhc8± 24.Ra1 0.57/28 White is much more active.
[24.Rc1± 0.97/27]
24...Bd7 25.Rxc7 Rxc7 26.Ke3 -0.01/23
[26.Ra3± 0.52/26]
26...Nc6!= The position is equal.
27.Nxc6+ Bxc6 Endgame KRB-KRB
28.Kd4 Bb5 29.Ra3 Bxd3 30.cxd3 KR-KR **30...Kd7 31.Rc3 Rxc3 32.Kxc3** KP-KP **32...Kc6 33.Kb3 Kb5 34.d4 Kc6 35.Ka4**
[35.Ka3!?]
35...b5+ 36.axb6 Kxb6 37.g3 Kb7 38.Ka5 Ka7 39.b5 axb5 40.Kxb5 Kb7 41.Kc5

(Diagram)

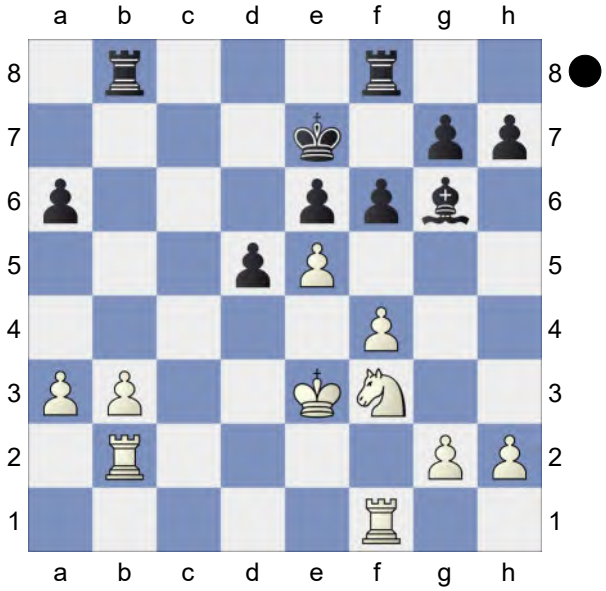


Kc7 42.Kb5 Kb7 43.Kc5 Strongly threatening Kd6. **43...Kc7 44.Kb5** Weighted Error Value: White=0.12 (very precise) /Black=0.10 (very precise) **44...Kb7**
½-½

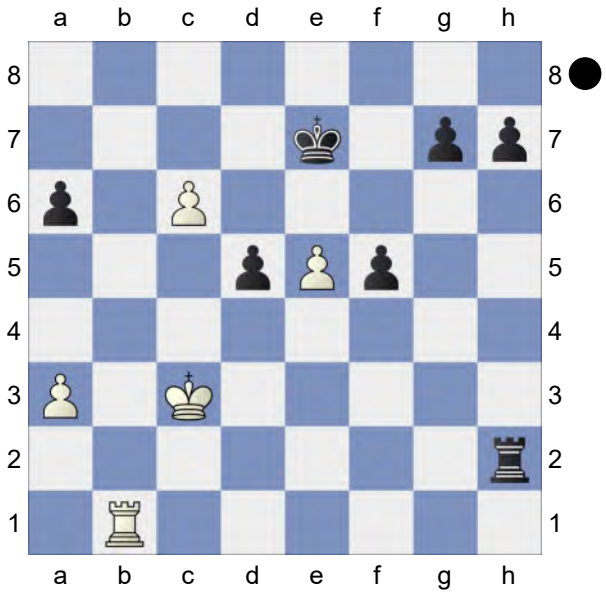
144 **C11**
□ **indomie_egg** **2687**
■ **evolinct** **2761**
Blitz 23.11.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.a3 b5** 0.61/18
[8...cxd4= 0.21/19 is more appropriate. 9.Nxd4 Be7]
9.Bd3± Nb6N 2.50/20
[9...Be7± 0.37/16 10.0-0 0-0 11.dxc5 Nxc5 12.Bxh7+ Kxh7 13.Ng5+ Bxg5 14.fxg5 Nd7 15.Qh5+ Kg8 16.Rf3 Ndxe5 17.Rh3 f5 18.gxf6 Rxf6 19.Bg5 Nd7 20.Qh7+ Kf7 21.Bxf6 Nxf6 22.Rf1 Nd4 23.Qh5+ Ke7 24.Qg6 Qf8 ½-½ Basso,P (2508)-Luque Saiz,A (2286) Valencia Cuna op 4th 2023 (4)]
[9...c4 10.Be2 Be7 11.0-0 #3 26. Steinitz 7.Be3 a6-Steinitz 7.Be3 a6 8.a3 b5]
[9...Rb8 10.0-0 cxd4 11.Nxd4 Nxd4 12.Bxd4 b4 13.f5 Bc5 14.Ne2 Qg5 15.fxe6 fxe6 16.axb4 Rxb4 17.c3 Rxb2 18.Bxa6 Ke7 19.Bxc5+ Nxc5 20.Bxc8 Rxc8 21.Ra7+ Rb7 22.Rxb7+ Nxb7 23.Qd4 Nc5 24.c4 ½-½ Bok,B (2596)-Aronian,L (2729) Julius Baer GenCup PI/In rapid 2024 (9)]
[9...Qb6 10.0-0 *(10.Bf2 Bb7 11.0-0 Be7 12.Kh1 g6 13.dxc5 Bxc5 14.Bh4 Be7 15.Qe1 Rc8 16.Rd1 Nc5 17.Bxe7 Nxe7 18.Qh4 Nxd3 19.cxd3 Nf5 20.Qf6 0-0 21.Rfe1 Ne3 22.Rd2 d4 23.Ne4 Bxe4 24.dxe4 Rfd8* 1-0 Kienboeck,B (2118)-Kurt,O (1907) EU-chT U18 Iasi 2023 (6.4) *)* 10...cxd4 11.Bf2 Nc5 12.Nxd4 Nxd3 13.Qxd3 Nxd4 14.Qxd4 Qxd4 15.Bxd4 Bd7 16.Ne2 Rc8 17.c3 Be7 18.Kf2 0-0 19.Ke3 a5 20.Rfc1 Rfe8 21.Kd2 b4 22.cxb4 axb4 23.a4 b3 24.Rxc8 ½-½ Krzywda,A (2173)-Badacsonyi,S (2289) Titled Tuesday intern op 14th Jan Early blitz 2025 (9)]
10.dxc5+- Nc4 White is clearly better. **11.Bxc4 bxc4 12.0-0?** 1.00/19
[12.b4+- 2.56/21 has better winning chances.]
12...Qa5± Prevents Na4. **13.Nd4** 0.23/19 A dynamic duo of knights.
[Better is 13.Kh1!± 1.41/21]
13...Bxc5= 14.Kh1 Nxd4 15.Bxd4 Rb8 16.Rb1 Bxd4 17.Qxd4 Qb6 18.Ne2 Qxd4 19.Nxd4 Bd7 Black is weak on the dark squares **20.Kg1 Ke7 21.Kf2 f6 22.Ke3 Rhf8**

23.Nf3 Be8 24.b4 cxb3 25.cxb3 -0.68/24
[25.Rxb3= 0.01/25 Ba4 26.Rb4 Bxc2 27.Rc1 Rxb4 28.axb4]
25...Bg6∓ 26.Rb2 -1.16/22
[26.Nd4!∓ -0.37/22]



26...Rfc8 -0.47/20
[Black should play 26...Rbc8!∓ -1.16/22 Threatens to win with ... Rc3+. 27.Kd4 Be4]
27.Kd2 Prevents Rc3. **27...Be4** -0.31/21 Black is more active.
[27...Rc4∓ -0.75/21 28.Rc1 Rxc1 *(28...Rxf4 29.Rc7+ Kf8 30.Rc6∓)* 29.Kxc1 Be4]
28.Nd4 Rc4
[Stronger than 28...Bxg2 29.Rg1±]
29.bxc4 Rxb2+= Endgame KRB-KRN
30.Kc3! Rxg2 0.01/20
[30...Ra2!∓ -0.66/22 31.c5 Rxa3+ *(31...Rxg2 32.c6=; 31...Bxg2 32.Rd1=)* 32.Kb4 Rd3 *(32...Bxg2 33.Rg1=)*]
31.c5! Rxh2 32.c6 fxe5 33.fxe5 Threatens to win with c7. **33...Bf5! 34.Nxf5+ exf5 35.Rb1?** -5.97/24
[35.Kd4= 0.01/21]



35...Rh4!-+ 36.Rb8 Weighted Error Value: White=0.48/Black=0.22 (precise)
36...Rc4+
0-1

145 **C11**
□ **odonata-bot** **2687**
■ **IntegralBot** **2973**
Blitz 09.11.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min+2sec C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 a6 7.Ne2 Nc6 8.c3 a5N**
[8...b5 9.a3 *(9.Be3 Bb7 10.g3 Be7 11.Bg2 a5 12.f5 exf5 13.0-0 0-0 14.Nf4 cxd4 15.Nxd4 Nxd4 16.cxd4 Nb6 17.b3 g6 18.Qd2 a4 19.Nd3 Re8 20.Rac1 Nd7 21.Rc2 axb3 22.axb3 Ra3 23.Rb1 Qa8* 0-1 Siger,C (1577)-Gruber,R (2098) corr SC-2013-0*)* 9...Be7 *(9...c4 10.g4 h5 11.gxh5 Rxh5 12.f5 exf5 13.Nf4 Rh8 14.Qe2 Nb6 15.Rg1 Ra7 16.h4 Na8 17.e6 Bxe6*

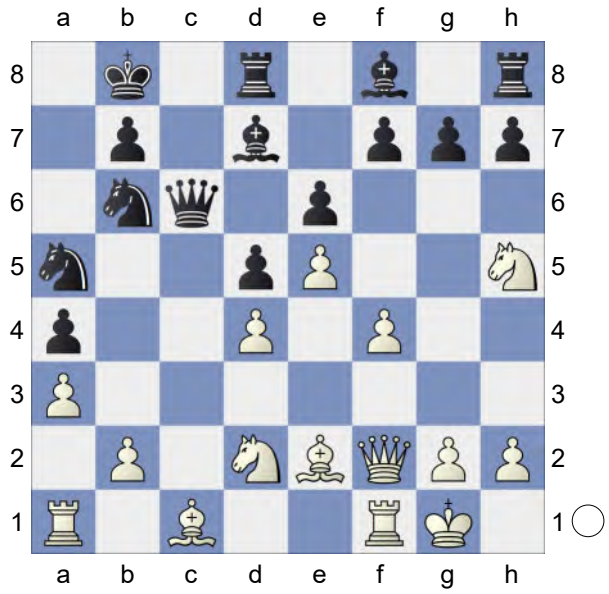
18.Nxe6 fxe6 19.Rg6 Nc7 20.Bf4 Bd6 21.Qh2 Bxf4 22.Qxf4 Kd7 23.Rxg7+ Kc8 24.0-0-0 0-1 4.d4 ♘f6 5.♗c4_43147 (2803)-Coll Sola,J (2702) Deutschland 80/340 2000 (1)*)* 10.Be3 0-0 11.Ng3 cxd4 12.cxd4 f5 13.exf6 Nxf6 14.Ne5 Bartel,M (2604)-Socko,B (2593) Polska (ch) 138/(123) 2018]

[8...Be7 9.g3 b5 10.Bh3 Nb6 11.0-0 Bd7 12.Ne1 Qc7 13.b3 c4 14.f5 0-0-0 15.Be3 exf5 16.Bxf5 Bxf5 17.Rxf5 Rhf8 18.Ng2 Qd7 19.Qc2 f6 20.exf6 Bxf6 21.Raf1 Qe7 22.g4 g6 23.R5f3 0-1 Caillot,A (1561)-Abergel,T (2471) Sautron op qual 19th 2019 (1.1)]

9.Ng3 0.11/19

[9.h4± 0.50/16 is superior.]

9...Qb6!= 10.a3 a4 11.Be2 Qb3 12.Qd2 Nb6 13.Bd1 Qb5 14.Qf2 cxd4 15.cxd4 Na5! 16.Nd2 Bd7 17.Be2 Qc6 18.Nh5 0-0-0 19.0-0 Kb8



20.f5 -0.41/18 **exf5∓ 21.Rb1! Rc8 22.b4** -0.64/16

[22.b3= -0.19/17]

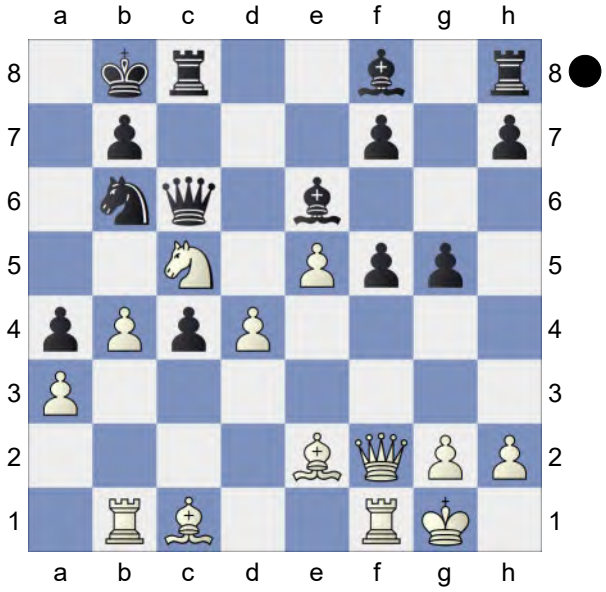
22...Nac4 23.Nf4 b5 is the strong threat. **23...Be6 24.Nd3** -0.84/18

[24.h4∓ -0.31/17]

24...g5∓ 25.Nxc4! Discovered Attack **25...dxc4**

[25...Nxc4 26.Bxg5 Rg8 27.Bc1± *(27.b5 Qb6∓)*]

26.Nc5



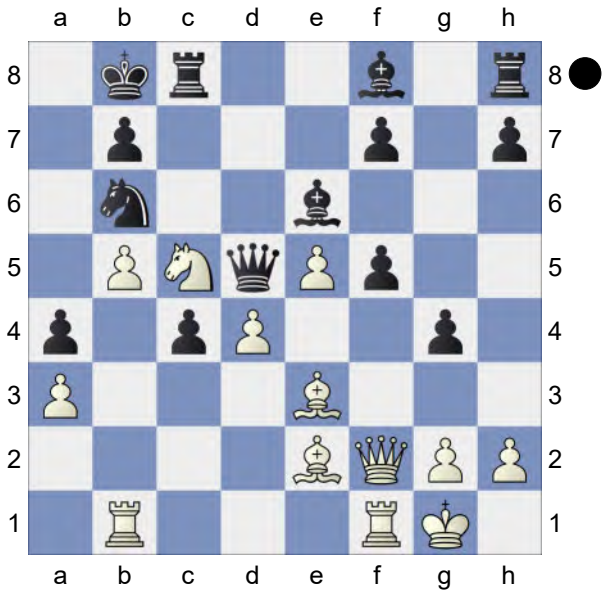
g4 -0.36/16 Against Bf3

[26...f4!∓ -0.84/18]

Black converts the advantage convincingly. **27.b5?** -2.58/20

[White should play 27.Bd1!∓ -0.36/16]

27...Qd5-+ 28.Be3



Qd8! 29.Rfc1? -2.88/17

[29.Rb4∓ -0.91/18 was the only defense.]

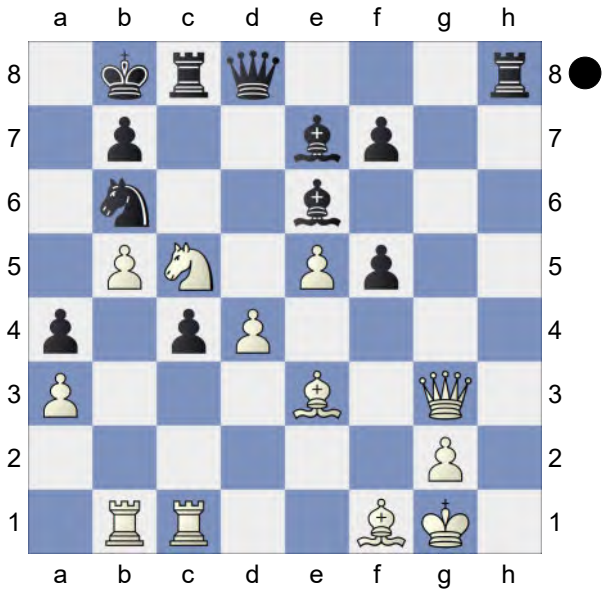
29...h5 30.Kh1? -3.46/17

[30.Rb4 -1.83/16]

30...h4 31.Bf1 Be7 32.Kg1 g3 Decoy **33.hxg3** -7.64/22

[⌓33.Qf3 -4.26/18 Qd5 34.Qxd5 Nxd5 35.Bd2]

33...hxg3 34.Qxg3



f4! 35.Nxe6

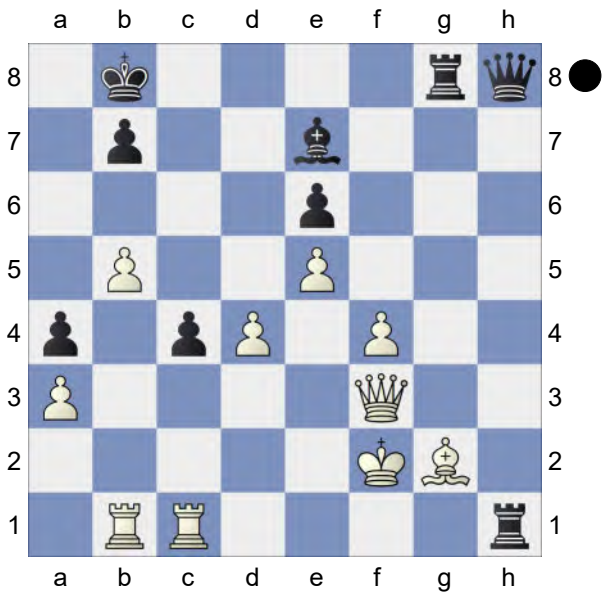
[35.Qxf4 Rh4]

35...fxe6 36.Bxf4 Rh4 37.Qf2 Qh8 38.Qf3 Nd5

[38...Rh1+ 39.Kf2-+]

39.g3 Nxf4 40.gxf4 Rg8+ 41.Bg2 Rh1+ 42.Kf2

(Diagram)



Rxg2+! 43.Qxg2 Rh2 -10.41/19

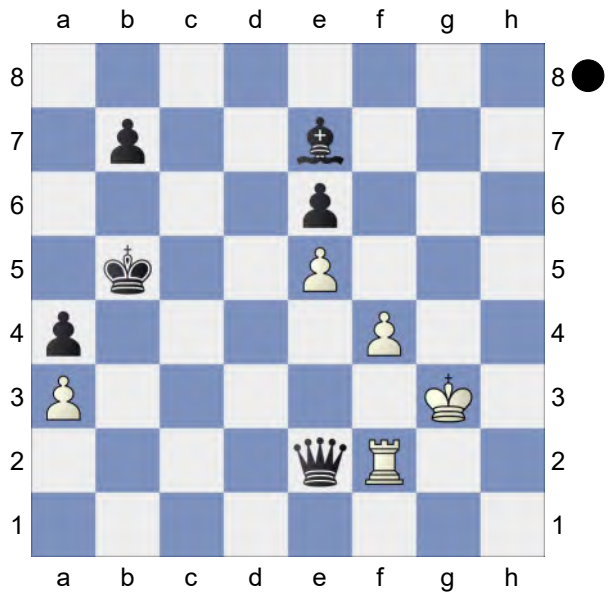
[⌓43...Qh4+ -25.39/25 44.Ke3 Rh3+ Skewer 45.Kd2 c3+ *(45...Bxa3 46.Qg8+ Kc7 47.Rxc4+; 45...Qxf4+? 46.Kc2-+; 45...Rh2? 46.Qxh2 Qxh2+ 47.Kc3-+)* 46.Ke2 Rh2 *(46...Bxa3 47.Rh1∓; 46...Qh5+? 47.Kf1-+)* 47.Qxh2 Qxh2+ 48.Kf3 Qh3+ *(48...Bxa3? 49.Rh1-+)* 49.Ke2 Qg2+ *(49...Bxa3? 50.Rh1-+)* 50.Ke3 Qd2+ *(50...Bxa3? 51.Rxc3 Qg3+ 52.Kd2-+)* 51.Kf3 c2 *(51...Bxa3? 52.Rh1-+)*]

44.Rg1 Qh4+ 45.Kf3 Rxg2 46.Rxg2 Qh7

[46...Bxa3 47.Rg8+ Kc7 48.b6+ Kd7 49.Rbg1-+]

47.Ra1 Qd3+ 48.Kg4 Qxd4 49.Raa2 c3 50.Rh2 Ka7 51.Kf3 Qd5+ 52.Kg4 Qxb5 53.Rhg2 Qd3 Threatens to win with ...Qg6+. **54.Rgc2 Kb6 55.Rh2 Kb5 56.Rhf2 Bc5 57.Rf3 Qg6+ 58.Kh4 Qb1 59.Rg2 c2 60.Rxc2 Qxc2 61.Kg4 Qe2 62.Kg3 Be7 63.Rf2**

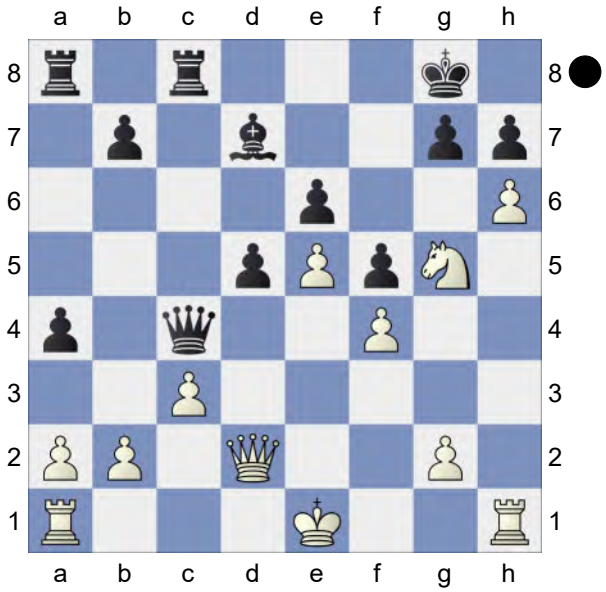
(Diagram)



Bh4+! 64.Kxh4 Qxf2+ 65.Kg4 Qc5 66.f5 Qxa3 67.Kf4 Qf8 68.Ke4 Qxf5+ 69.Kd4 a3 70.Kc3 Qe4 71.Kb3 Qd3+ 72.Ka2 Qc3 73.Kb1 Weighted Error Value: White=1.41/Black=0.08 (flawless)
73...Qb2#
0-1

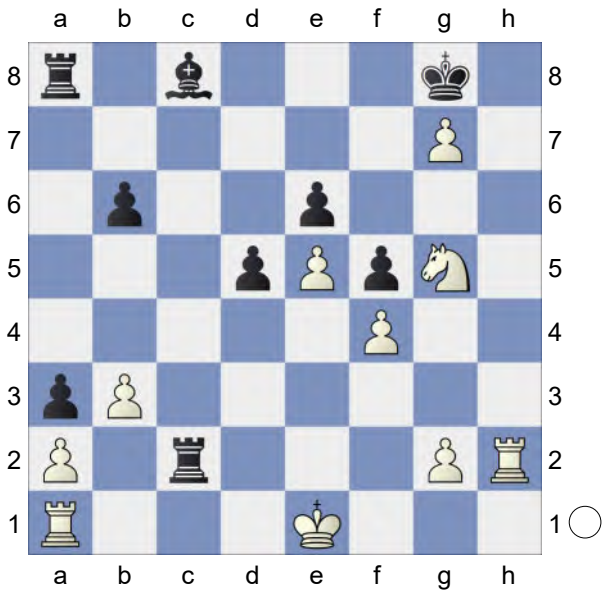
146 **C11**
□ **Najer,Evgeniy** **2687**
■ **Buhmann,Rainer** **2653**
Dortmund 44th (1) 09.07.2016
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 Be7 8.Nf3 0-0 9.Be3 a5N**
[9...f6 10.g3 Qb6 11.Qd2
A) 11...fxe5 12.dxe5 Rd8 13.Bh3 d4 14.Bf2 d3 15.Nc1 Nf8 16.b3 Qa6 17.a4 b5 18.0-0 Bb7 19.Ra2 b4 *(19...c4 20.axb5 Qxb5 21.bxc4 Qxc4)* 20.c4 Na5 21.Be3 Nxc4 22.bxc4 Qxc4 23.f5 exf5 24.Bxf5 Qd5 25.Bxd3 c4 26.Bb1 0-1 9.Nd2 a5/ 14.Qc2 Ngf6 15.Bd3 (2730)-Winter (2628) Moscow IT 3rd 1936;
B) 11...cxd4 12.Nexd4 fxe5 13.Nxe6 d4 14.Bf2 Re8 15.Be2 Na5 16.f5 Nf6 17.Nxe5 Bxe6 18.Bxd4 Bc5 19.fxe6 Bxd4 20.cxd4 Rad8 Steinitz Variante-13 | Steinitz mit 5.f4 + 7.Se]
10.h4 -0.30/20
[⌓10.a4 0.25/20]
10...a4!= 11.Qc2 Black has an edge.
11...f5 0.52/24
[11...f6!= -0.22/19]
12.Ng5± Nb6 13.dxc5 Nc4 14.Bg1 Qa5 15.Nd4 Nxd4 16.Bxd4 Bxc5 17.Bxc5 0.10/20
[17.Nf3!± 0.47/22]
17...Qxc5= 18.Bxc4 Qxc4 0.57/24
[18...dxc4= 0.00/26 19.Qf2 b6]
19.Qd2± Bd7 20.h5 0.03/24
[20.Nf3± 0.79/23]
20...Rfc8=
[20...h6 21.Nf3±]
21.h6



Threatens to win with hxg7. **21...a3** Hoping for ...axb2. **22.b3↑** Black is under pressure. **22...Qxc3 23.Qxc3 Rxc3 24.hxg7 Rc2 25.Rxh7**

Black must now prevent Rh8+.
[25.Nxh7 Kxg7 *(25...Rxg2 26.Nf6+ Kxg7 27.0-0-0=)* 26.Ng5 Rd8-+ *(26...Rxg2 27.Kf1∓)*]
25...Bc8? 2.98/23
[25...Rac8= 0.00/26 26.Kf1 *(26.Rh8+? Kxg7 27.Rh7+ Kg6∓)* 26...R8c7]
26.Rh2? 0.30/24
[26.Rd1+- 2.98/23 Rd3 would now be deadly. Rxg2 27.Rh1 *(27.Rd2 Rg1+ 28.Kf2 Rxg5∓* Remove Defender*)* 27...Rxa2 28.Nxe6 *(28.Rh7? Rb2-+)* 28...Bxe6 29.Rh8+ Kxg7 30.Rxa8]
26...b6? 5.00/25
[26...Ra5!= 0.30/24 and Black stays safe.]

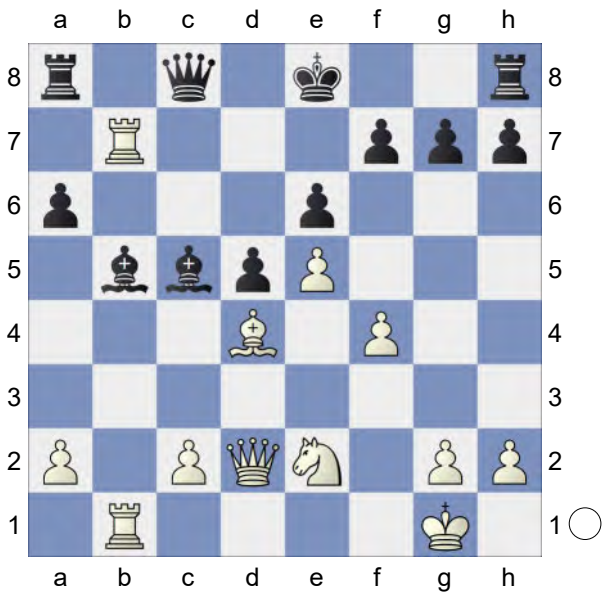


This move loses the game for Black.
27.Nxe6!+- **Bxe6** **28.Rh8+** Skewer **28...Kxg7** **29.Rxa8** KRR-KRB **29...d4** **30.Rd1** **Rxa2** **31.Rxd4** **Bxb3** **32.Ra7+** **Kg6** **33.Rd6+** **Kh5** **34.Rg7** Weighted Error Value: White=0.28 (precise) / Black=0.78
1-0

147 **C11**
□ **David_B0wie** **2687**
■ **ChainsOfFantasia** **2711**
Blitz 12.02.2025
[Kitty Kat]

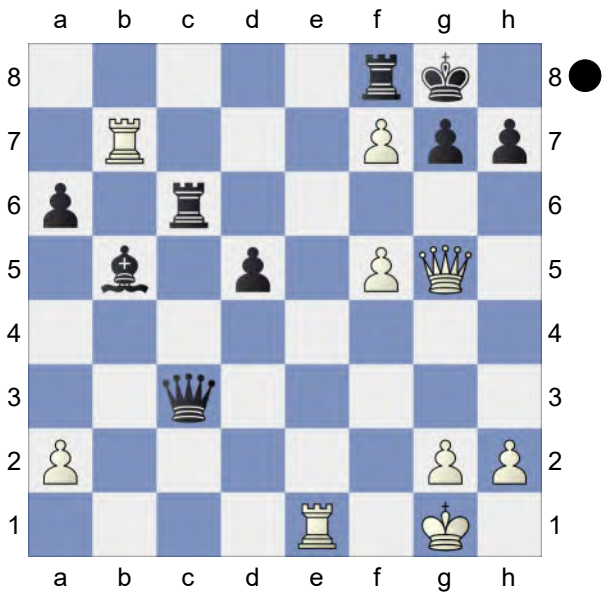
Blitz 3min C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Qb6 9.Qd2 Qxb2 10.Rb1 Qa3 11.Bb5! Nxd4 12.Bxd4 a6 13.Bxd7+ Bxd7** White has an edge. **14.Rb3 Qe7**
[14...Qa5? 15.Bb6+- *(15.Rxb7 Bb4∓)*]
15.Rxb7 Qd8 16.0-0 Qc8 17.Rfb1 Bc5 18.Ne2N 0.01/19
[18.f5± 0.57/21 Bb5 19.Nxb5 axb5 20.R7xb5 Bxd4+ 21.Qxd4 0-0 22.R1b2 25. Steinitz 7.Be3 cxd4 8. Nxd-Steinitz 8.Nxd4 Qb6 - 11.Bb Qa6 23.h3 *(23.f6 Qa7 24.Qxa7 Rxa7 25.Rb8 Ra8 26.R8b4 Ra3 27.Rg4 g6 28.Rgb4 h5 29.Rb8 Rxb8 30.Rxb8+ Kh7 31.Rf8 Ra7 32.h4 g5 33.hxg5 Kg6 34.Rg8+ Kf5 35.Rg7 Kxe5 36.a4 Kf5 37.g6 Ra8* 1-0 Borgaonkar,A (2415)-Yaniv,Y (2365) Budapest SixDays 09 GM-B 2024 (2) *)* 23...Qa7 24.c3 h5 25.Rb7 Qxd4+ 26.cxd4 h4 27.Re7 exf5 28.Rbb7 Rxa2 29.e6 g6 30.Rbd7 Ra6 31.exf7+ ½-½ Aryan,C (2610)-Ioannidis,E (2459) 153/115 Novi Sad 2022]
18...Bb5=

(Diagram)



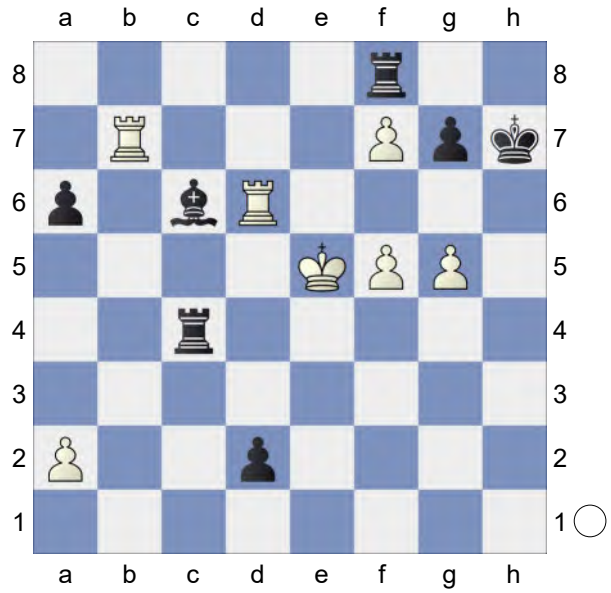
19.Bxc5! **Qxc5+** Black is weak on the dark squares
[19...Qxb7 20.Nd4±]
20.Nd4⇄ And now f5! would win. White puts up resistance **20...0-0** **21.Qb4** **Qc8** **22.Qe7** -3.10/22
[22.Rb6= 0.01/20]
22...Qc3-+ **23.Nxe6** -6.35/23
[23.Nxb5 -2.66/20 axb5 24.R7xb5]
23...Qxc2 **24.Re1** **Rae8** Deflection
25.Qg5 **Rxe6** **26.f5** Wards off Rg6
26...Rc6 **27.e6** **Qc3**
[27...Qxa2 28.f6 g6 29.Qh6]
28.exf7+

(Diagram)



Kh8!
[28...Rxf7 29.Re8+ Rf8 30.Rxf8+ Kxf8 31.Qd8#]
29.Qe7 **Rcc8** And now ...Rxf7! would win. **30.h3** **Qc5+** -5.08/22
[⌓30...Rxf7 -11.57/20 31.Kh2 Rxe7 32.Rbxe7 Qf6]
31.Qxc5 **Rxc5** **32.Re6** **d4** **33.g4** **h5** **34.Rd6** **hxg4** **35.hxg4** **d3** **36.Kf2** **Kh7?** -1.34/24
[36...Rc6-+ -4.43/23 37.Rxc6 Bxc6]
37.Kg3? -4.07/21
[37.Ke3∓ -1.34/24 was worth a try.]
37...Rc2? -0.08/21
[37...Rc6-+ -4.07/21 38.Rxc6 Bxc6]
38.Kf4? -3.90/22
[38.g5= -0.08/21 and White has nothing to worry.]
38...d2? -0.87/22
[38...Rxa2 39.Kf3-+]
[38...Rc6-+ -3.90/22 is more deadly. 39.Rxc6 Bxc6]
39.g5? -2.38/24
[39.Re7∓ -0.87/22 was forced.]
39...Rc4+? -0.12/23
[Weaker is 39...Rxa2 40.Re7=]
[39...g6-+ -2.38/24 40.Re7 Ba4 *(40...Rxa2 41.Rxg6 Ra4+ 42.Ke5=)*

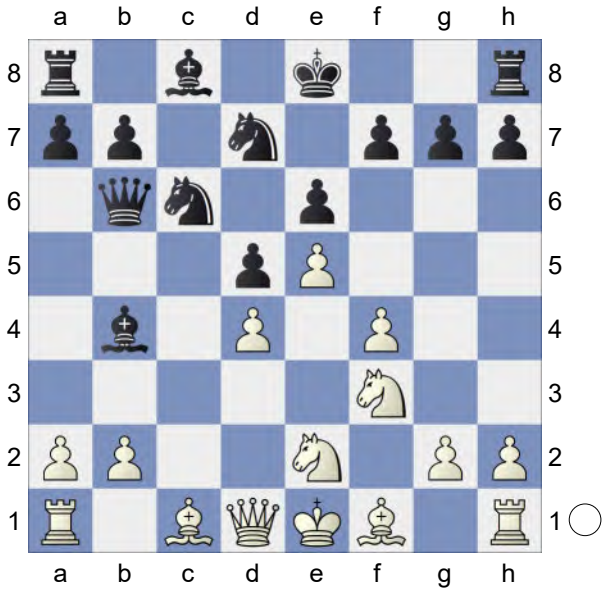
41.fxg6+ Kg7]
40.Ke5 -1.54/23
[40.Ke3= -0.12/23]
40...Bc6? 7.22/25
[40...Rc5+∓ -1.54/23 41.Kf4 g6 *(41...Rc4+ 42.Ke3∓)* 42.fxg6+ Kg7 43.Rxd2 Rc6 *(43...Kxg6 44.Rd6+ Kg7 45.g6∓)*]



41.Rxd2!+- White is clearly winning.
41...Re4+
[41...Rh4 42.Rb4]
42.Kd6 Rd8+ 43.Kxc6 Rh2+ would kill now. Discovered Attack What a bad dream for Black. Weighted Error Value: White=1.12/Black=0.60 **43...Rc4+** Loss on time!?
0-1

148 **C05**
□ **Brodsky,Michail** **2687**
■ **Rushkin** **2470**
Katowice op (2) 01.12.2022
[Kitty Kat]

C05: French Tarrasch: 3...Nf6 4 e5 Nfd7, 5 f4 and 5 Bd3 sidelines **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 Qb6 8.Nf3 cxd4**
[8...f6 9.a3 Be7 10.h4 0-0 11.b4 cxd4 12.cxd4 a5 13.b5 Qxb5 14.Nc3 Qb6 15.Rb1 Qd8 16.Bd3 h6 17.Nb5 Ra6 18.Bc2 f5 19.g4 Nb6 20.gxf5 exf5 21.Bd3 Na8 22.Kf2 Rb6 23.Qg1 ½-½ 4.h3 Bg7 5.Nf3 de4 6.Ne (2582)-10.dc5 Bc5 11.Bd2 (2734) Nanjing 2010 (7)]
9.cxd4 Bb4+

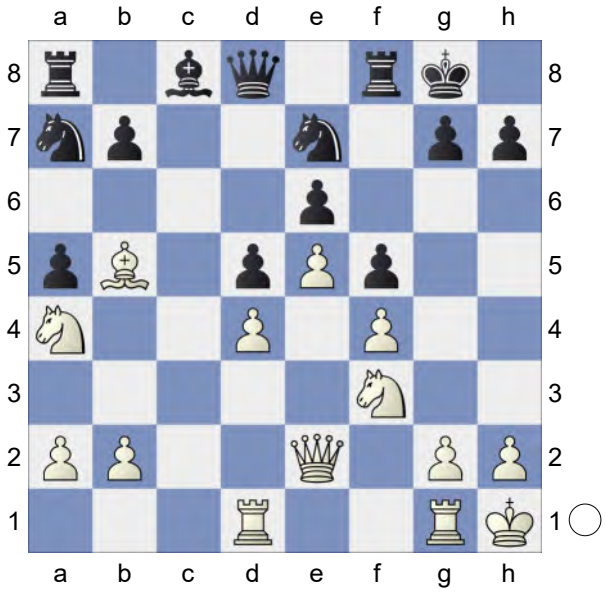


10.Bd2 0.64/19
[10.Nc3!± 1.08/22]
10...Bxd2+N
[10...0-0 11.Bxb4 Qxb4+ 12.Qd2 Nb6 13.Nc3 Rd8 14.Nb5 Bd7 15.Nd6 Rab8 16.Rc1 Qxd2+ 17.Kxd2 Nc8 18.Nb5 a6 19.Nc3 N8e7 20.Bd3 Rbc8 21.b3 Nb4 22.a3 Nbc6 23.b4 h6 24.h4 Nb8 25.Ke3 3 Chapter-Games Chapter 1 (2) Game]
11.Qxd2 f6 12.Nc3 0-0 White is better.
13.Rd1
[13.0-0-0 Qa5 14.Bd3 Nb4 1.05/21 *(14...Rb8± 0.51/22)* 15.Bb1± b5 16.h4 0.48/20 *(Better is 16.a3± 1.05/22 Nc6 17.Qd3)* 16...Bb7

1.47/19 (Black should play *16...Ba6±* 0.48/20) 17.a3± Rfc8? 3.11/18 (*17...Nc6±* 1.48/19) 18.axb4+- Qxb4]

13...a5 14.Bb5 Ne7 15.0-0 f5 16.Qe2 Nb8 17.Na4 Qd8 18.Kh1 White is much more active. **18...Nbc6 19.Rg1 Na7** 1.79/24

[19...b6± 1.29/23]



20.Bd3!+- Ng6 21.Qe3 And now g4 would win. **21...Bd7** 2.86/20

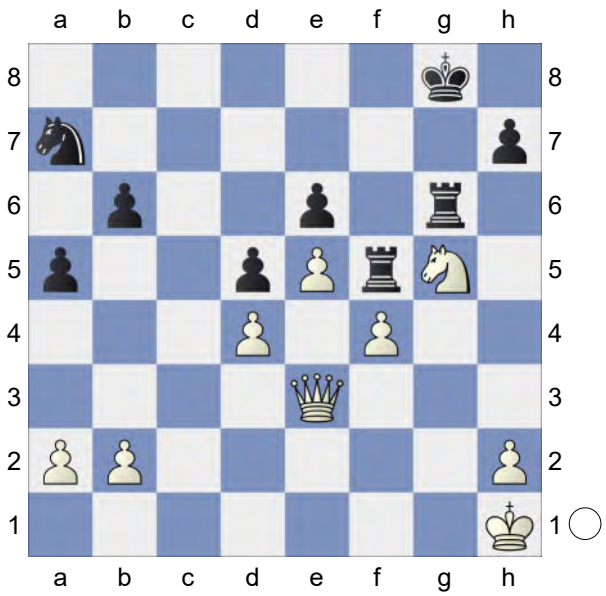
[21...Nc6 1.74/19 was called for. 22.Bb5 Nge7]

22.Nc5 Strongly threatening Ng5! **22...b6 23.Nxd7 Qxd7 24.g4 Ne7 25.Rg2** Threatens to win with Rdg1. **25...Rac8?** 3.87/22

[25...Nac6 2.19/20 26.Ng5 h6]

26.Rdg1 Rc7 27.gxf5 Nxf5 28.Bxf5 Rxf5 29.Rxg7+ Qxg7 30.Rxg7+ Rxg7 31.Ng5 Rg6

(Diagram)



32.Nxe6! Nc6

[32...Rxe6? loses. 33.Qh3+-]

33.Nc7 Ne7 34.Ne8 Rf8 35.Nf6+ Kg7 4.18/21

[35...Kh8 2.77/22 was necessary. 36.h4 Rc8]

36.Qa3 2.45/19

[⌓36.Nh5+ 4.18/21 Kg8 37.e6]

36...Nf5? 4.55/22

[36...Rfxf6 2.45/19 might work better. 37.exf6+ Kxf6]

37.Qh3 White is clearly winning.

[37.Nxd5 Rc8 38.Nc3 Rc4=]

37...Rfxf6 38.exf6+ Kxf6 39.Qxh7 Nxd4 40.Qh8+ Rg7 41.Qh6+ Kf7 42.Qh5+ Weighted Error Value: White=0.22 (precise) /Black=0.47

1-0

149 **C11**

□ **Aktinia22** **2687**

■ **Punchen** **2780**

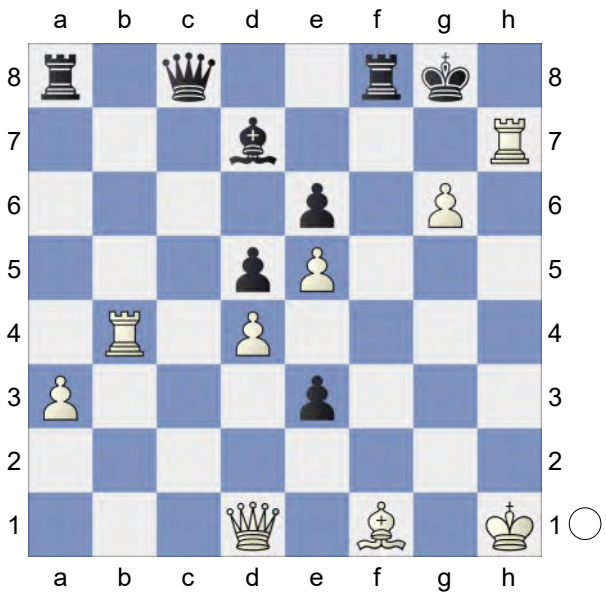
Blitz 17.12.2024

[Kitty Kat]

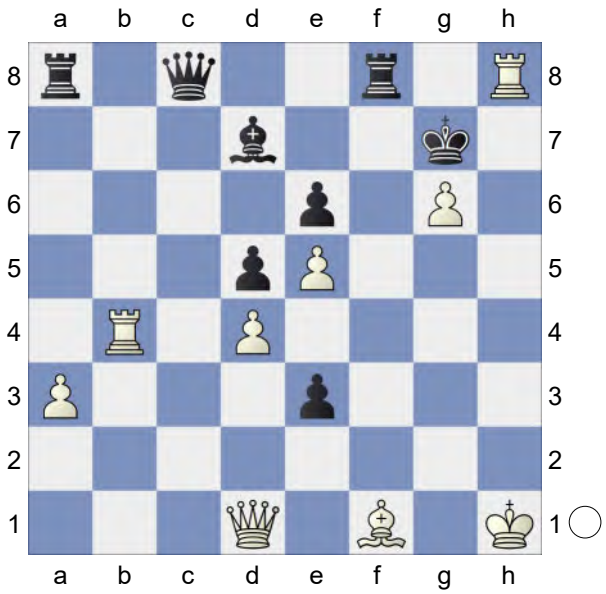
Blitz 3min C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.d4 Nf6**

2.Nc3 e6 3.e4 d5 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.a3 -0.15/18
[7.Nf3± 0.32/16 f6 8.Nf4 Qe7 9.exf6 Nxf6 10.Bb5 cxd4 11.Nxd4 Qd6 12.Qe2 Kf7 13.Nf3 e5 14.Bxc6 exf4 15.Ne5+ Kg8 16.Ba4 Bd7 17.Nxd7 Nxd7 18.0-0 Nc5 19.Bc2 Qe6 20.Qf3 Bd6 21.Rd1 Re8 22.h3 1-0 Selepe,L (1930)-Palmer,R (2087) Cape Town Masters 2025 (7)]
7...a5 0.29/17
[⌓7...cxd4 -0.15/18 8.cxd4 Be7]
8.h4N
[8.Nf3 a4 9.h4 Qa5 10.Bd2 Qb6 11.Rb1 Be7 12.Be3 0-0 13.Nf4 Qb3 14.Qc1 cxd4 15.cxd4 Na5 16.Bd3 h6 17.Rh3 Nc4 18.Bc2 Qb5 19.Nh5 Nxe3 20.Qxe3 f5 21.Rg3 Rf7 22.Qxh6 Bf8 1-0 Carlsen,M (2831)-Nepomniachtchi,I (2755) CCT Final KO 2024 rapid (2.5)]
8...a4 9.h5 h6 0.48/19
[9...Qa5= -0.01/16]
10.Rh3 b5 0.69/16
[10...Nb6= 0.22/18]
11.f4 -0.02/17
[11.Nf3!± 0.69/16]
11...f5 0.87/17
[11...Be7= -0.02/17]
12.Be3 -0.01/18
[12.Qc2± 0.87/17]
12...Na5 0.89/16
[12...Be7= -0.01/18 remains equal.]
13.Nf3 -0.01/19
[13.Qc2!± 0.89/16]
13...Nc4 0.36/19
[13...Be7= -0.01/19]
14.Bc1 -0.01/17
[14.Bf2± 0.36/19]
14...Be7= 15.dxc5 -0.55/19
[White should try 15.Qc2= 0.01/17]
15...Nxc5∓ 16.Ned4 Bd7 Prevents Nc6
17.Kf2 -0.58/18
[17.Bd3= -0.21/19]
17...Qb6 -0.15/19
[17...0-0∓ -0.58/18 is more appropriate.]
18.Kg1= Nb3 19.Rb1 Bc5 20.Kh1 Bxd4 21.Nxd4 Nxd4 22.cxd4 Rc8 0.01/21
[22...0-0∓ -0.44/21]
23.b3 axb3 24.Rhxb3 Qa6 0.70/21
[Better is 24...0-0= 0.00/19]
25.g4± 0-0! 26.g5 0.02/18
[26.gxf5± 0.57/18 Rxf5 27.Bd3]
26...hxg5 1.37/17
[26...Qa4!= 0.02/18]
27.fxg5± b4 1.73/18 **28.Rxb4+- Ra8?** 5.37/16
[28...g6± 1.26/17 29.Bf4 *(29.hxg6 Be8+-)* 29...Bc6]
29.g6 Qc6? 8.06/16
[29...Be8 3.99/16 30.Qf3 Qa7]
30.R1b3 3.83/17
[⌓30.h6 8.06/16]
30...Qc8? 9.62/18
[30...f4 3.83/17 31.h6 Qc8]
31.Rh3 f4 32.h6 Hoping for hxg7.
32...Ne3 33.Bxe3 fxe3 34.hxg7
[34.Rxe3 gxh6 35.Rg3 Ba4±]
34...Kxg7 35.Rh7+
[35.Rxe3 Rh8+ 36.Bh3 Qc6+-]
35...Kg8

(Diagram)

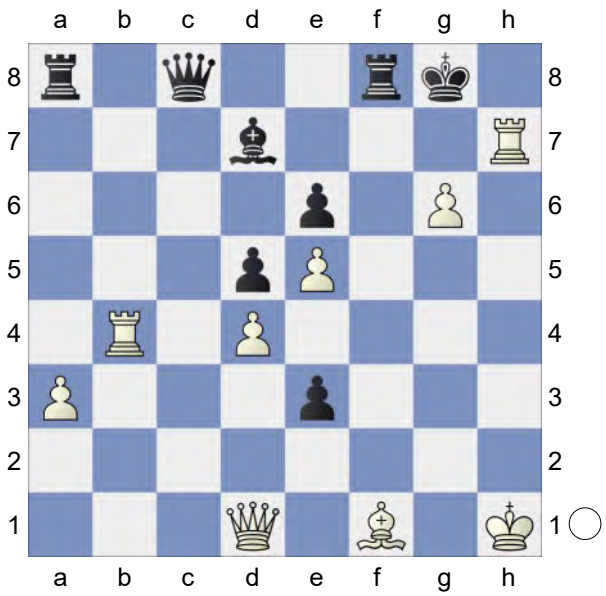


36.Rh8+? 3.03/5 **Kg7**
[Not 36...Kxh8 37.Qh5+ Kg8 38.Qh7#]



Threatens to win with ...Rxf1+. **37.Rh7+?** -0.01/5
[37.Rh2!+- 4.82/22]
37...Kg8=

(Diagram)

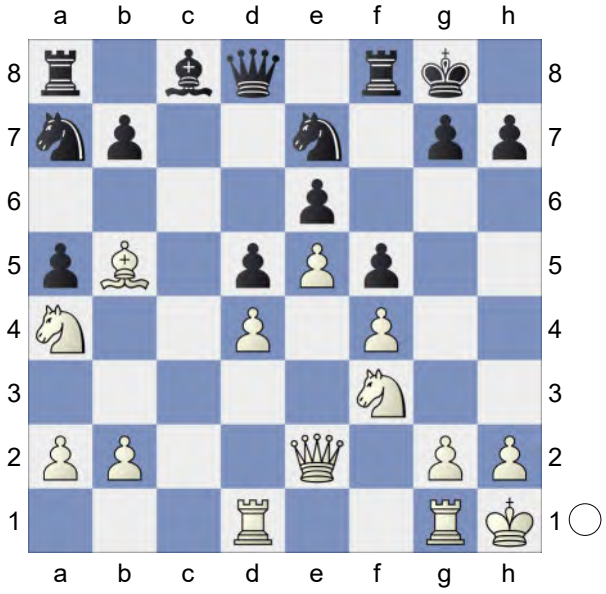


38.Qh5 -#6/5 Dodges Rf5 **38...Rxf1+ 39.Kg2** Black used his chance. Weighted Error Value: White=0.87/ Black=1.09 **39...Qc2+**
0-1

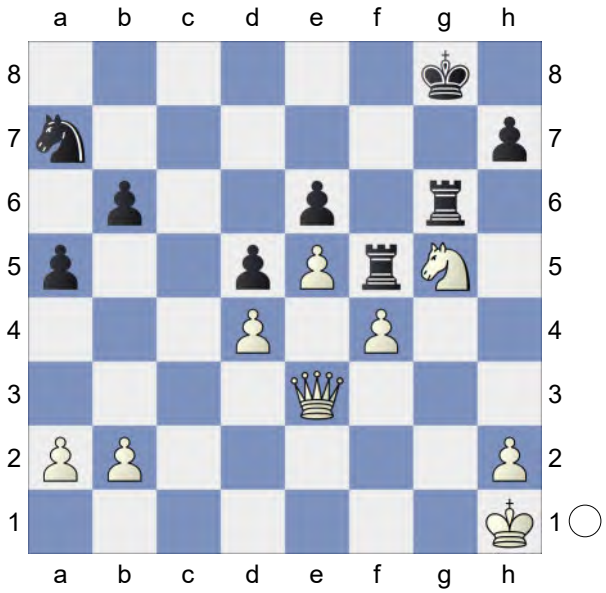
150 **C05**
□ **Alekseenko,Kirill** **2687**
■ **Wadsworth,Matthew J** **2470**
Elllobregat op 3rd (2) 01.12.2022
[Kitty Kat]

C05: French Tarrasch: 3...Nf6 4 e5 Nfd7, 5 f4 and 5 Bd3 sidelines **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 Qb6 8.Nf3 cxd4**
[8...f6 9.a3 Be7 10.h4 0-0 11.b4 cxd4 12.cxd4 a5 13.b5 Qxb5 14.Nc3 Qb6 15.Rb1 Qd8 16.Bd3 h6 17.Nb5 Ra6 18.Bc2 f5 19.g4 Nb6 20.gxf5 exf5 21.Bd3 Na8 22.Kf2 Rb6 23.Qg1 ½-½ 4.h3 Bg7 5.Nf3 de4 6.Ne (2582)-10.dc5 Bc5 11.Bd2 (2734) Nanjing 2010 (7)]
9.cxd4 **Bb4+** The main line 9...Bb4+ scores better than 9...f6. Die Hauptvariante 9...Lb4+ punktet besser

als 9...f6. **10.Bd2** 0.65/22
[White should try 10.Nc3± 1.08/22]
10...Bxd2+N
[10...0-0 11.Bxb4 Qxb4+ 12.Qd2 Nb6 13.Nc3 Rd8 14.Nb5 Bd7 15.Nd6 Rab8 16.Rc1 Qxd2+ 17.Kxd2 Nc8 18.Nb5 a6 19.Nc3 N8e7 20.Bd3 Rbc8 21.b3 Nb4 22.a3 Nbc6 23.b4 h6 24.h4 Nb8 25.Ke3 3 Chapter-Games Chapter 1 (2) Game]
11.Qxd2 f6 12.Nc3 0-0 White is better.
13.Rd1N
[Vorgänger: 13.0-0-0 Qa5 14.Bd3 Nb4 Wards off Qc2 15.Bb1 b5 16.h4 0.42/19 *(16.a3± 1.09/20 Nc6 17.Qd3)* 16...Bb7 1.44/19 *(*Black should play *16...Ba6!±* 0.42/19 *)* 17.a3± Rfc8 2.87/20 *(17...Nc6±* 1.47/20 *)* 18.axb4+- Qxb4 1-0 (39) Queirolo Perez,M (2102)-Massanet Massanet,S (2260) Petra 2010]
13...a5 14.Bb5 Ne7 15.0-0 f5 16.Qe2 Nb8 17.Na4 Qd8 18.Kh1 White is much more active. **18...Nbc6 19.Rg1 Na7**



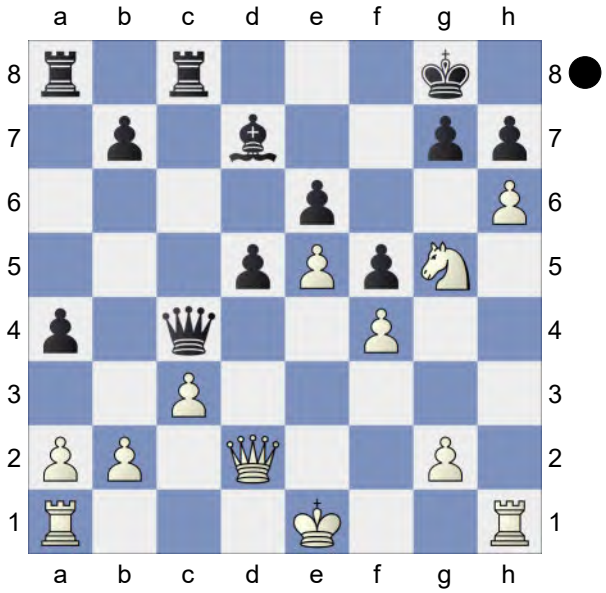
20.Bd3 Ng6 2.06/20
[20...Bd7± 1.57/18]
21.Qe3+- Bd7 2.73/19
[⌓21...Nc6 1.96/18 22.g4 Nge7]
22.Nc5 Black must now prevent g4!
22...b6 23.Nxd7 Qxd7 24.g4 Ne7 25.Rg2 Rac8? 3.91/21
[25...Nac6 2.26/21 26.Rdg1 g6]
26.Rdg1 Rc7 27.gxf5 Nxf5 28.Bxf5 Rxf5 29.Rxg7+ Qxg7 30.Rxg7+ Rxg7 31.Ng5 Rg6



32.Nxe6! Nc6
[32...Rxe6? is the wrong capture. 33.Qh3+-]
33.Nc7 Ne7 34.Ne8 Rf8 35.Nf6+ Kg7? 4.45/23
[35...Kh8 2.70/22 36.h3 Kg7 37.Nh5+ Kg8]
36.Qa3 Nf5 4.61/21
[36...Rfxf6 2.89/20 was called for. 37.exf6+ Kxf6]
37.Qh3 White is clearly winning.
[37.Nxd5 Rc8 38.Nc3 Rc4=]
37...Rfxf6 38.exf6+ Kxf6 39.Qxh7 Nxd4 40.Qh8+ Rg7 41.Qh6+ Kf7 42.Qh5+ Weighted Error Value: White=0.32/Black=0.47
1-0

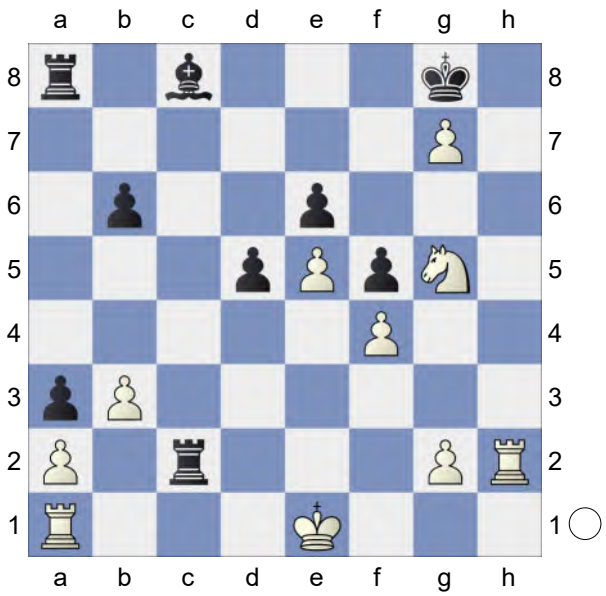
151 **C11**
□ **Oskooei,MH.** **2687**
■ **Cornforth,John W** **2653**
corr FRA 66 Ch (1) 09.07.2016
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 Be7 8.Nf3 0-0 9.Be3 a5N**
[9...f6 10.g3 Qb6 11.Qd2
A) 11...fxe5 12.dxe5 Rd8 13.Bh3 d4 14.Bf2 d3 15.Nc1 Nf8 16.b3 Qa6 17.a4 b5 18.0-0 Bb7 19.Ra2 b4 *(19...c4 20.axb5 Qxb5 21.bxc4 Qxc4)* 20.c4 Na5 21.Be3 Nxc4 22.bxc4 Qxc4 23.f5 exf5 24.Bxf5 Qd5 25.Bxd3 c4 26.Bb1 0-1 9.Nd2 a5/ 14.Qc2 Ngf6 15.Bd3 (2730)-Winter (2628) Moscow IT 3rd 1936;
B) 11...cxd4 12.Nexd4 fxe5 13.Nxe6 d4 14.Bf2 Re8 15.Be2 Na5 16.f5 Nf6 17.Nxe5 Bxe6 18.Bxd4 Bc5 19.fxe6 Bxd4 20.cxd4 Rad8 Steinitz Variante-13 | Steinitz mit 5.f4 + 7.Se]
10.h4 -0.22/20
[⌓10.Ng3 0.16/21]
10...a4= 11.Qc2 Black has an edge.
11...f5 0.42/22
[Better is 11...f6!= -0.14/20]
12.Ng5± Nb6 13.dxc5 Nc4 14.Bg1 Qa5 15.Nd4 Nxd4 16.Bxd4 Bxc5 17.Bxc5 Qxc5 18.Bxc4 Qxc4 19.Qd2 Bd7 20.h5 0.00/28
[20.Nf3± 0.76/22]
20...Rfc8=
[20...h6 21.Nf3±]
[20...d4 simplifies 21.Qxd4 Qxd4 22.cxd4 h6]
21.h6
[21.Nf3 simplifies a3 22.b3 Qxc3 23.Qxc3 Rxc3 24.Kd2]



Threatens to win with hxg7. **21...a3** aiming for ...axb2. **22.b3↑** Black is under pressure. **22...Qxc3 23.Qxc3 Rxc3 24.hxg7 Rc2 25.Rxh7** Hoping for Rh8+.
[25.Nxh7 Kxg7 *(25...Rxg2 26.Kf1=)* 26.Ng5 Kg6-+ *(26...Rxg2 27.Kf1∓)*]
25...Bc8? 3.47/26
[25...Re8= 0.00/27 and Black stays safe.]
26.Rh2? 0.39/23
[26.Kd1+- 3.47/26 Rxg2 27.Rh1 *(27.Rc1? Rxg5* Remove Defender *28.fxg5 Kxh7-+)* 27...Kxg7 28.Rc1 Rxg5 *(28...Rxa2?* too greedy. *29.Rc7+ Kg8 30.Rh6+-)* 29.fxg5]
26...b6? 5.09/25
[Black should play 26...Ra5!± 0.39/23]

(Diagram)



Loses the game. **27.Nxe6!+-** **Bxe6** **28.Rh8+** Skewer **28...Kxg7** **29.Rxa8** KRR-KRB **29...d4** **30.Rd1** **Rxa2** **31.Rxd4** **Bxb3** **32.Ra7+** **Kg6** **33.Rd6+** **Kh5** **34.Rg7** Weighted Error Value: White=0.30/Black=0.69
1-0

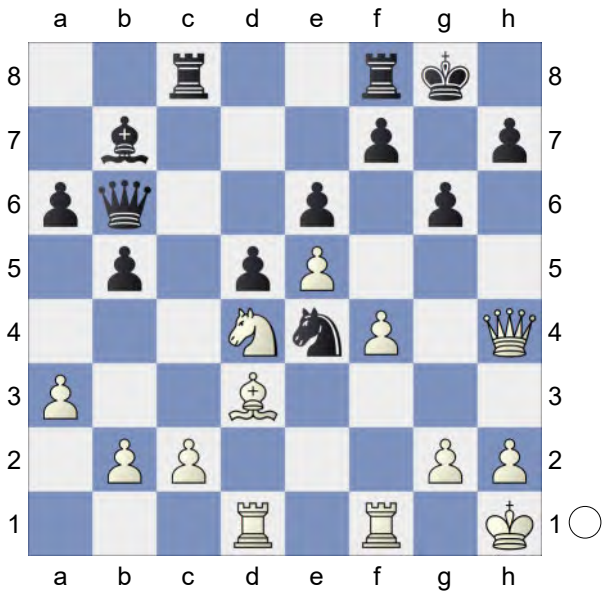
152 **C11**
□ **Sevian,Samuel** **2687**
■ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2852**
PRO League Prelim 2023 (3.4) 02.03.23
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4** **e6** **2.d4** **d5** **3.Nc3** **Nf6** **4.e5** **Nfd7** **5.f4** **c5** **6.Nf3** **Nc6** **7.Be3** **a6** **8.Qd2** **b5** **9.Bd3**
[9.h4!?]
9...Qb6 0.50/24
[9...b4= 0.01/20 10.Na4 c4]
10.Qf2± 10.dxc5 is not played anymore. 10.dxc5 wird inzwischen seltener gespielt. **10...Bb7N** 0.70/22
[10...cxd4!= 0.25/19 11.Nxd4 Bc5 *(11...Nxd4 12.Bxd4 Bc5 13.Ne2 b4 14.0-0 a5 15.f5 exf5 16.Bxf5 Bxd4 17.Nxd4 0-0 18.Rae1 Nc5 19.Bxc8 Raxc8 20.Nf5 Rce8 21.e6 f6 22.Qd4 Kh8 23.e7 Rg8 24.Nh6* 1-0 Ibd7 (2624)-Stempka,J (2515) 71/(399) Szeged 1997*)* 12.Nce2 b4 13.0-0 a5 14.Rad1 Ba6 15.Bxa6 Rxa6 16.Kh1 0-0 17.Qg3 Nxd4 18.Nxd4 f5 19.Qh3 Bxd4 20.Bxd4 Qc6 21.c3 bxc3 22.bxc3 Nc5 23.g4 Rb6 24.gxf5 Rxf5 25.Rg1 Rb7 26.Rg4 Ne4 ½-½ Firouzja,A (2728)-Bluebaum,M (2647) Leon blitz op 33rd 2020 (7)]
[10...b4 11.Na4 Qa5 12.Nxc5 Nxd4 13.Nxd4 Bxc5 14.Qg3 g6 15.Nb3 Qc7 16.Nxc5 Nxc5 17.0-0 Bb7 18.a3 bxa3 19.Rxa3 Nxd3 20.cxd3 0-0 21.Rc1 Qd7 22.Bc5 Rfc8 23.d4 Kg7 24.Rf1 f5 25.exf6+ 1-0 Gledny,W (2105)-Sponheim,O (1998) Alushta4 1994 (7.3)]
11.0-0 **g6** White is slightly better.
12.Kh1 **Rc8** 1.23/22
[12...Nxd4± 0.60/19 13.Nxd4 cxd4 14.Bxd4 Bc5]
13.a3 0.77/19
[⌓13.a4 1.23/22]
13...cxd4 1.16/21
[⌓13...c4 0.77/19]
14.Nxd4± Nxd4 15.Bxd4 Bc5 16.Ne2 Bxd4 17.Nxd4
[17.Qxd4 Qxd4 18.Nxd4 0-0±]
17...Nc5 **18.Rad1** **0-0** 1.97/22
[18...Qc7± 0.90/21]
19.Qh4N 0.87/17
[Predecessor: 19.f5 Black must now prevent f6. Nxd3 20.Rxd3 exf5 21.Qg3 Kh8 1.93/23 *(21...Rc4± 1.42/20* might work better.*)* 22.e6+- Rce8 23.Qe5+ f6 24.Qf4 b4 2.32/20 *(⌓24...Bc8 1.72/17)* 25.axb4 1-0 (36) Frendzas,P (2416)-Lotz,B (2510) LSS email 2013]

[19.f5!+- 1.97/22]

19...Ne4 2.66/20

[19...Qd8± 0.87/17 20.Qg3 Nxd3 21.Rxd3 *(21.cxd3 Qb6±)* 21...Rc4]



20.c3? 1.02/18

[20.Bxe4!+- 2.66/20 and the rest is easy. dxe4 21.f5]

20...a5? 3.28/23

[20...Qd8± 1.02/18 21.Qh3 Qb6]

21.Bxb5? 0.68/20

[21.Nxb5 Rc5 22.Nd4 Ba6±]

[White should try 21.f5+- 3.28/23 exf5 22.Bxe4 fxe4 *(22...dxe4 23.Nxf5 gxf5 24.Rd6±)* 23.Rf6]

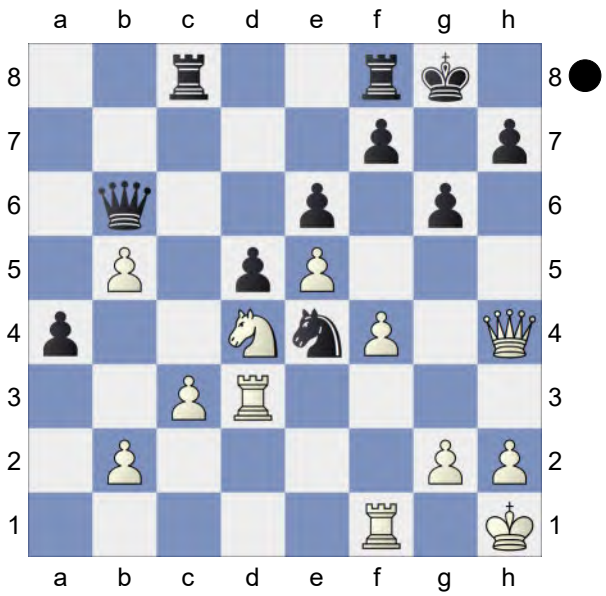
21...Ba6± 22.a4 Bxb5 23.axb5 a4 1.41/20

[Better is 23...Kh8 0.86/19]

24.Rd3 -0.01/19

[24.g4± 1.41/20]

(Diagram)



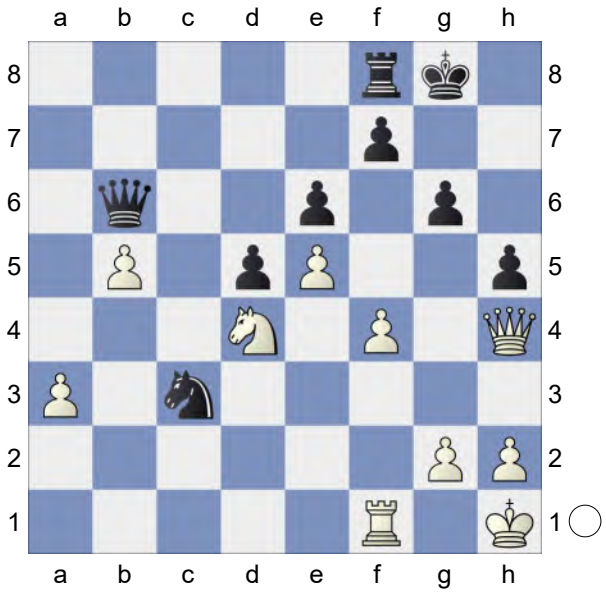
24...a3!= 25.Rh3

[25.bxa3 Rxc3]

25...h5 Active counter play! **26.bxa3 Rxc3** 0.01/19

[26...Nxc3∓ -0.40/24 27.f5 Ne4]

27.Rxc3 Nxc3



28.f5! Ne4 29.Nc6 -5.69/20

[Much weaker is 29.Rd1 gxf5 30.Re1 *(30.Qxh5? too greedy. Ra8∓)* 30...Rc8∓ *(30...Qxd4 31.Rxe4 Qxe4 32.Qg5+ Kh7 33.Qxh5+ Kg7 34.Qg5+ Kh7 35.Qh5+ Kg7 36.Qg5+ Kh7 37.Qh5+=)*]

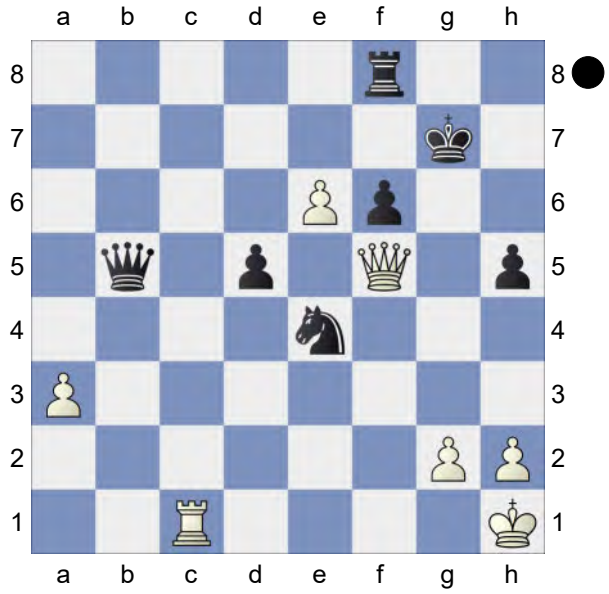
[29.fxe6!= 0.01/19 Qxd4 30.exf7+ Rxf7 31.Qd8+ Kg7 32.Rxf7+ Kxf7 33.Qd7+ Kf8 34.Qd8+ Kg7 35.Qe7+ Kg8 *(35...Kh6 36.Qf8+ Kh7 37.Qf7+ Kh8 38.Qf8+ Kh7 39.Qf7+ Kh6 40.Qf8+ Kh7=)* 36.Qd8+ Kf7]

29...Qxb5-+ 30.Ne7+ Kh7 31.Qf4

[Don't blunder 31.fxg6+? fxg6 32.Rg1 Nf2+]

31...exf5 32.Nxf5 gxf5 33.Qxf5+ Kg7 34.e6 f6 35.Rc1 -7.99/19

[⌓35.g4 -4.91/20 Qe2 36.g5 Nxg5 37.Rg1 Qe4+ 38.Qxe4 dxe4 39.h4 Pin]



35...Rc8! Deflection, Back Rank **36.Rg1**

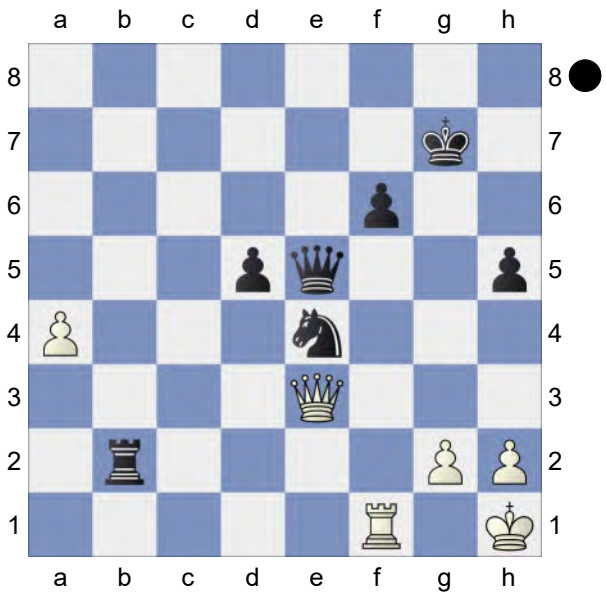
[36.Rf1 Qc4]

36...Qd3 37.Qf3 Dodges Ng3+ **37...Qd4**

[37...Qxf3? 38.gxf3+ Kf8 *(38...Ng5 39.f4∓* Pin *)* 39.fxe4 dxe4 40.a4-+]

38.Rf1 Inhibits Nf2+. **38...Qe5 39.Qe3 Qxe6 40.a4 Ra8 41.Qd4 Qe5 42.Qb4 Rb8 43.Qe1 Rb2** Hoping for ...Ra2. **44.Qe3**

(Diagram)



Never resign too early! Weighted Error Value: White=1.15/Black=0.41 **44...Nf2+! 0-1**

153 **C11**

□ **Cheparinov,Ivan** **2687**

■ **Gashimov,Vugar** **2717**

Sochi FIDE GP (1) 31.07.2008

[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Bc5 9.Qd2 0-0 10.0-0-0 a6 11.Qf2 Bxd4 12.Bxd4 b5 13.Be3! b4** 0.90/22

[13...Qa5± 0.35/21]

14.Na4± a5 15.h4! White is better.

15...Ba6 1.28/22

[15...f6!± 0.52/20]

16.h5! Bxf1N

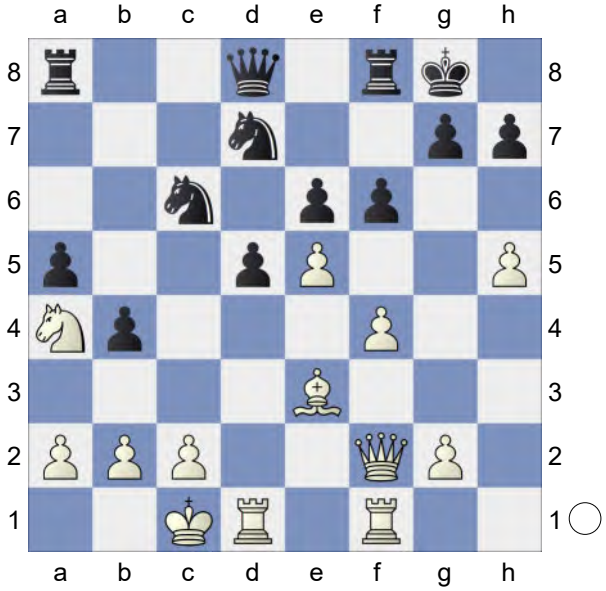
[16...Qc7 17.h6 g6 18.Bxa6 *(18.g4 Bxf1 19.Rhxf1 f5 20.exf6 Nxf6 21.Bb6 Qb8 22.Qe2 Re8 23.f5 exf5 24.Qd2 Re5 25.gxf5 Ne4 26.Qg2 Qf8 27.Qh2 Rxf5 28.Rxf5 Qxf5 29.Qc7 Qg5+ 30.Kb1 Qf6 31.Qd7*

Ne7 32.Bd8 Qf3 1-0 5.♗e2 0-0-0 6.♗e3_54305 (2677)-Heidrich,W (2509) Deutschland 146/14 2020) 18...Rxa6 19.Nc5 Nxc5 20.Bxc5 Rc8 21.Bd6 Qb6 22.Rhf1 Qxf2 23.Rxf2 Nd8 24.f5 gxf5 25.Rd3 Rc4 26.Rg3+ Rg4 27.Rxg4+ fxg4 28.Bc7 Nc6 29.Rf4 Ne7 30.Rxg4+ Ng6 31.b3 0-1 Gonzalez,J (2505)-Martin,P (2569) 1st North Sea Team Tmt, Bd 6 1998 (5)]

17.Rhxf1 0.37/21

[White should try 17.h6!± 1.24/21]

17...f6±



18.h6 0.20/20 White is more active.

18...g6? 1.97/20

[18...fxe5= 0.20/20 and Black has nothing to worry. 19.hxg7 Rf7]

19.exf6 1.09/19

[19.Nb6+- 1.97/20]

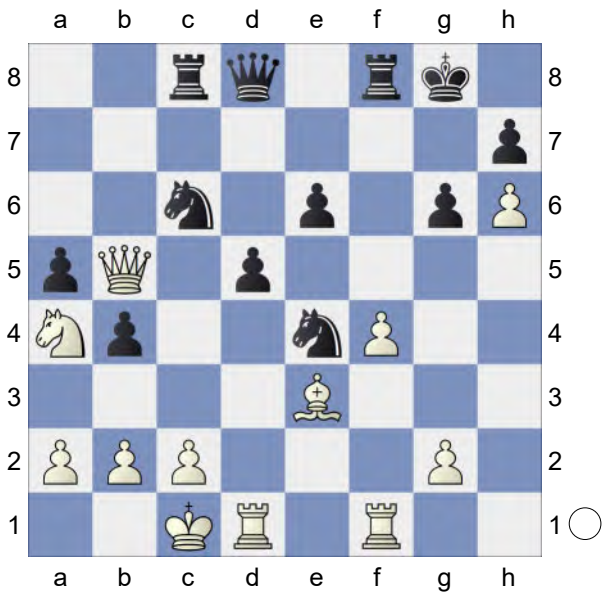
19...Nxf6± 20.Qe2 Ne4 21.Qb5 0.29/21

[21.Rfe1± 1.13/21]

21...Rc8 1.19/21

[21...Ne7!= 0.29/21]

(Diagram)



22.Nb6!↑ Keeping Black busy. **22...Rc7**

23.Kb1 Qd6 1.55/22

[⌓23...Qe8 0.90/20]

24.g4 0.34/21

[24.Nc4!± 1.55/22 Qd7 25.g4 *(25.Nxa5 Nd6∓)*]

24...Na7? 3.85/24

[24...d4!± 0.34/21]

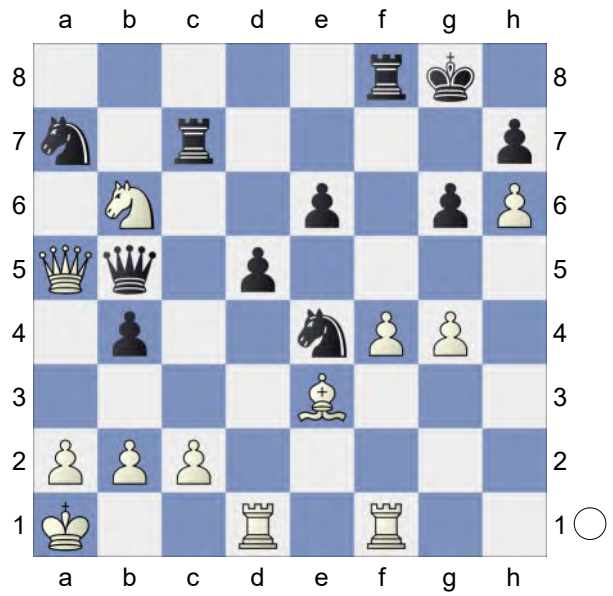
25.Qxa5 Qc6 and ...d4 would now be decisive **26.Ka1**

[26.Qxb4 Qxc2+ 27.Ka1 Nc6∓]

26...Qb5 3.86/25

[⌓26...Nc3 2.43/21]

(Diagram)



27.Qxb5!+- Nxb5 A dynamic duo of knights. **28.f5! Rcf7** 4.67/24
[28...d4 3.22/22 keeps fighting.]
29.Rg1 exf5 30.gxf5
[30.Rxd5 f4 *(30...fxg4 31.a4=)* 31.Bd2 *(31.Rxb5? fxe3 32.a3 e2-+)* 31...Nxd2 32.Rxd2 f3=]
[30.Nxd5 Nc7+-]
30...Rxf5 5.57/18
[⌓30...d4 3.65/19]
31.Nxd5 Ne7+ would now be deadly. White is clearly winning.
[31.Rxd5 Rf3±]
31...Rf3 32.Rge1 Nbd6 33.Nxb4 Nf5 34.Bc1 Nf2 35.Rd7 Ng4 36.a4 Ra8 37.b3 Ngxh6 38.Nd5 Ng4 Repels Nf6+ **39.Re4 h5 40.Rxg4** Remove Defender **40...hxg4 41.Nf6+ Kf8 42.Ba3+**
[42.Nxg4 Ra6 43.Ne5 Rg3=]
42...Ne7 43.Rxe7
[Stronger than 43.Nxg4 Rxa4 44.bxa4 Rxa3+ 45.Kb2 Rxa4∓]
43...Rxa4 44.Nd7+
[Avoid the trap 44.Kb2? Rxa3 45.Re5 Ra8 46.Nxg4 Re8∓]
44...Kg8 45.bxa4 Rxa3+ 46.Kb2 Rxa4 47.Nf6+ Kf8 Weighted Error Value: White = 0.37 / Black = 0.88 **48.Re4** An unexpected result.
½-½

154 **C11**
□ **Weiawaga** **2686**
■ **duchessAI** **2755**
Blitz 06.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 5min+1sec C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 cxd4 7.Nxd4 Qb6 8.Be3 Nc6 9.Qd2 Qxb2 10.Rb1 Qa3 11.Ncb5** -0.05/23
[11.Bb5!± 0.49/26 Ndb8 12.Rb3]
11...Qxa2= 12.Rc1N -0.43/21
[12.Nc7+? Kd8 13.Nxc6+ *(13.Nxa8? Qxb1+ 14.Kf2 Nxd4-+)* 13...bxc6 14.Nxa8 Qxb1+ 15.Kf2 Qb4 16.Qxb4 Bxb4-+]
[12.Rb3= -0.05/21 Rb8 13.Be2 Qa1+ 14.Bd1 Bc5 15.Nc7+ Ke7 16.Nxc6+ bxc6 17.Bxc5+ Nxc5 18.Rxb8 Ne4 19.Qb4+ c5 20.Qb5 Qc3+ 21.Kf1 Qd2 22.Qe2 Qxf4+ 23.Kg1 Qxe5 Cr97-5.Bc4 Nd5 6.0-0 Be6 Survey corr Opening corr 1994]
[12.Rd1 Rb8 13.Nc7+ Kd8 14.Ncb5 Nc5 15.Bd3 Nxd4 *(15...Nxd3+ 16.Qxd3 Bd7 17.Nd6 Bxd6 18.exd6 Qc4 19.Qd2 f6 20.Nxc6+ bxc6 21.Qa5+ Ke8 22.Qxa7 Rb2 23.Qa8+ Kf7 24.Qxh8 Qxc2 25.Bd2 Qe4+ 26.Kf1 Qd3+ 27.Ke1 c5 28.h4 Bb5 29.Kf2 Rxd2+ 30.Rxd2* 0-1 Firouzja,A (2785)-Caruana,F (2764) 157/108 Stavanger 2023*)* 16.Bxd4 Bd7 17.Nd6 Bxd6 18.exd6 Rc8 19.0-0 Nxd3 20.Qxd3 Qxc2 21.Qa3 Bc6 22.f5 e5 23.d7 Bxd7 24.Bxa7 Rc6

25.Qa5+ Kc8 26.Bb6 Rxb6 Chigaev,M (2520)-Alekseenko,K (2462) Loo 120/(73) 2014]

12...Rb8!∓

[12...Nxd4? 13.Bxd4 Qa4 14.Ra1+- *(14.Nc7+ Kd8+-)*]

13.Nc7+ Kd8 Black is slightly better.

14.Ncb5 Nc5 -0.08/21

[14...a6∓ -0.61/22 15.Nxc6+ bxc6]

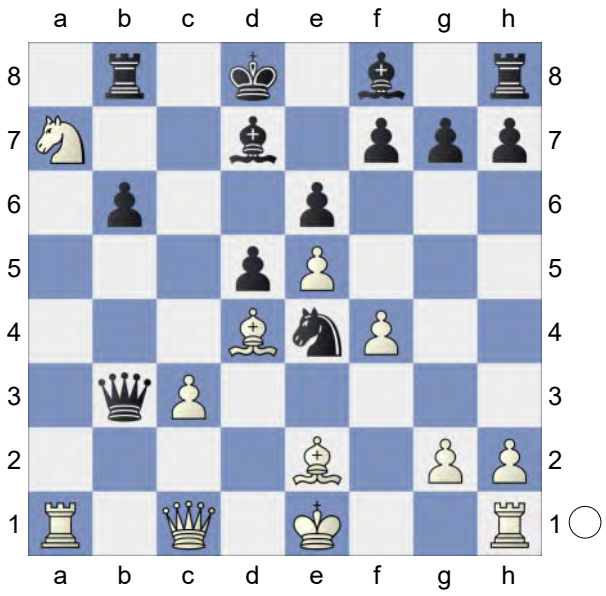
15.Qd1 Nxd4 16.Bxd4 Qa5+ 17.c3 Bd7 18.Ra1 Qb6 19.Nxa7 Qb3

[19...Ra8 20.Nc6+ Bxc6 21.Rxa8+ Kd7 22.Be2+-]

20.Qc1! b6 21.Be2⇄ White is not keeping still

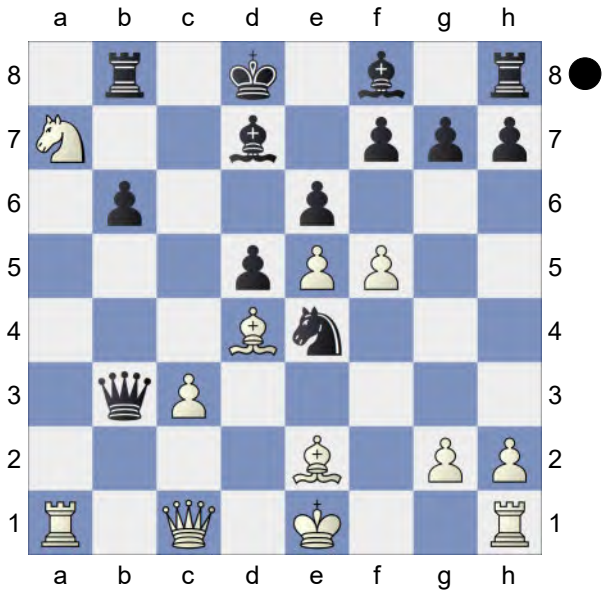
[21.Ra3? Nd3+ 22.Bxd3 Bxa3-+ *(22...Qxa3? 23.0-0-+)*]

21...Ne4



22.f5 -0.49/24

(Diagram)



Bb4! 23.0-0

[23.cxb4? Qxb4+-+]

23...Bxc3 24.Bxc3 Qxc3 25.fxe6

[25.Qf4? g5 26.Qc1 *(26.fxg6? hxg6 27.g3 Ra8-+)* 26...exf5 27.Qxc3 Nxc3-+]

25...fxe6 Black keeps a firm grip on the game. **26.Qf4?** -2.86/21

[White must play 26.Bb5!∓ -0.54/20]

26...g5-+ 27.Qf7 -3.84/25

[27.Qf3 -2.27/21]

27...Qe3+

[27...Qxe5? 28.Bb5 Qd6 29.Rac1+-]

28.Kh1 White wants to mate with Nc6+!.

28...Qxe2 29.Qg7 -4.79/24

[⌓29.Nc6+ -3.11/22 Bxc6 30.Ra7]

29...Re8 30.Rf7 Rb7 31.Nc6+ -5.95/22

[31.h3 -2.86/18 nothing else works. Nc5 32.Rf8]

31...Kc8 32.Re7 Qb2

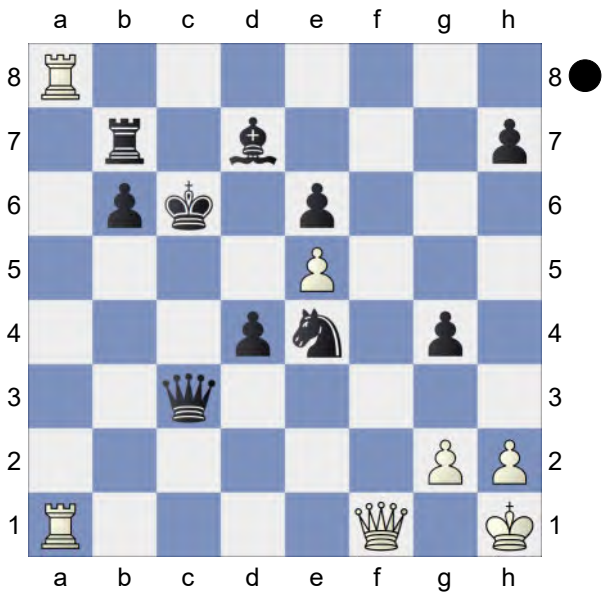
[32...Bxc6 33.Ra8+ Rb8 34.Rc7+ Kd8 35.Rxb8#]

33.Rxe8+ Kc7 34.Rea8 and R8a2 should not be overlooked **34...Kxc6**

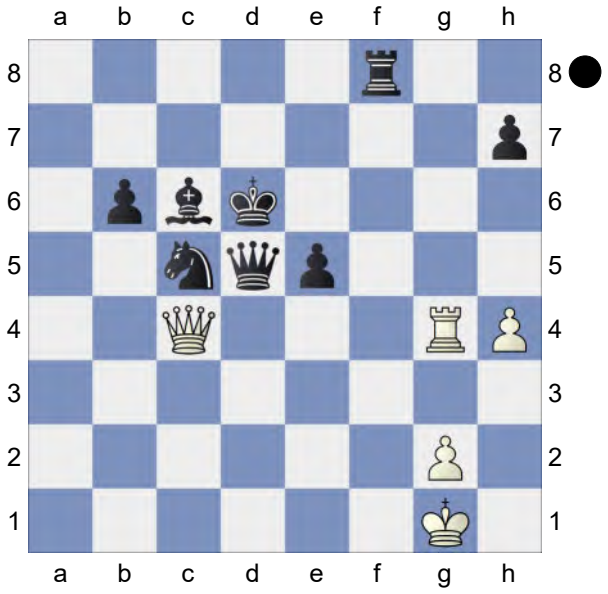
35.R8a2 Qc3 36.Ra8 -8.00/19

[⌓36.Rf1 -4.93/16]

36...d4 37.Qf8 g4 38.Qf1



Qd3! 39.Qc1+
[39.Qxd3 Nf2+]
39...Nc5 40.Qf4 Qe4 41.Qd2 Qxe5 42.Re1 Qf6 43.Rc1 Kd6 44.Qb4 Qf2 45.Rg8 Bc6 46.Rxg4 e5 47.Rb1 Qc2 48.Rg3 d3 49.h3 d2 50.Kh2 d1R 51.Rxd1+ Qxd1 52.Rg4 Qd5
Threatens to win with ...e4. **53.Kg1 Rb8 54.h4 Rf8** (→ ...Rf4!) **55.Qc4**



Rg8!! -34.03/24 **56.Qxd5+**
[56.Qe2 Rxg4]
56...Bxd5 57.Rb4 Rxg2+ 58.Kf1 Kc6 59.Rb1 Ra2 60.Re1 Bc4+ 61.Kg1 Nd3 62.Rf1 Nf4 63.Rf3 Kc5 64.Re3 Kd4 65.Rg3 b5 66.h5 b4 67.h6 b3 68.Rxb3 Bxb3 69.Kf1 Ke3 70.Kg1 Bd5 71.Kf1 Weighted Error Value: White=0.80/Black=0.13 (very precise)
71...Ra1#
0-1

155	**C11**
□ **Shirov,Alexei**	**2685**
■ **Gelfand,Boris**	**2670**
Chalkidiki Afitos (4)	1993

[TA]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4** Gelfand **1...e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Qb6 8.Na4 Qa5+ 9.c3 cxd4**
[9...c4-+ 10.b4 Qc7∓ 11.Be2 Gelfand b5 12.Nc5∓ Nxc5 13.dxc5! a5 14.a3 Be7 15.0-0∓ 0-0!? Gelfand 16.Qd2 Bd7∓ ⩲17.Rae1 Gelfand axb4! 18.axb4 Ra3 19.Nd4 Nxd4 20.Bxd4]
10.b4 Nxb4 11.cxb4 Bxb4+ 12.Bd2 Bxd2+ 13.Nxd2 g5
[13...b6 Gelfand 14.Qb3 *(14.Bd3? Gelfand Ba6! 15.Nb2!? Gelfand Nc5 16.Bxa6 Qxa6 17.Qe2 Qa3∓ 18.Qb5+ Ke7! 19.0-0!? Gelfand Qe3+ 20.Rf2 Rhc8!? 21.Rd1!∓ g6!? Gelfand 22.Nf1 Qa3∓ 23.Rxd4? Gelfand Qxa2!! 24.Ng3)* 14...g5 15.Qb5-+ gxf4 Gelfand 16.Qxa5 bxa5 17.Nf3∓ Rb8 Gelfand 18.Rc1∓ 0-0? Gelfand 19.Nc5! Rb2 Gelfand 20.Nd3∓]
14.Rb1!
[14.Nb2-+ 1.39/19 14.Rb1 2.40 gxf4 Gelfand 15.Nd3!∓ b6? *(15...0-0?* 3.41/18 15...b6 0.85 *16.Qg4+∓ Kh8*

Gelfand *17.Qxf4 f6* aiming for ...fxe5. *18.Qxd4!-+)* 16.Kf2!-+ 0.99/19 *(16.Be2* 1.48/18 *)* 16...Ba6 Gelfand 17.Nf3⇄ 0.65/19 *(17.Nxf4±* 1.26/18 *Qa3 18.Bxa6 Qe3+ 19.Kf1 Qxf4+ 20.Nf3)* 17...Rc8 1.91/19 Gelfand *(17...Nc5±* 0.65/19 *)* 18.Nxf4+- Nc5 19.Bxa6 1.32/20 *(19.g3!+-* 1.80/20 *)* 19...Ne4+± 20.Kg1⇄ Qxa6 Gelfand 21.Nxd4 0.68/19 *(21.h4!±* 1.29/20 *)*]

[14.fxg5 Nxe5 15.Rb1 0-0∓]

14...a6 3.20/20

[14...gxf4-+ 3.07/20 14...b5 2.06 15.Bb5 Gelfand a6!?⇄ 3.76/20 *(⌓15...0-0* 2.43/19 *)* 16.Bxd7++- Bxd7 17.Nb6]

[⌓14...b5 2.27/19]

15.Nb2

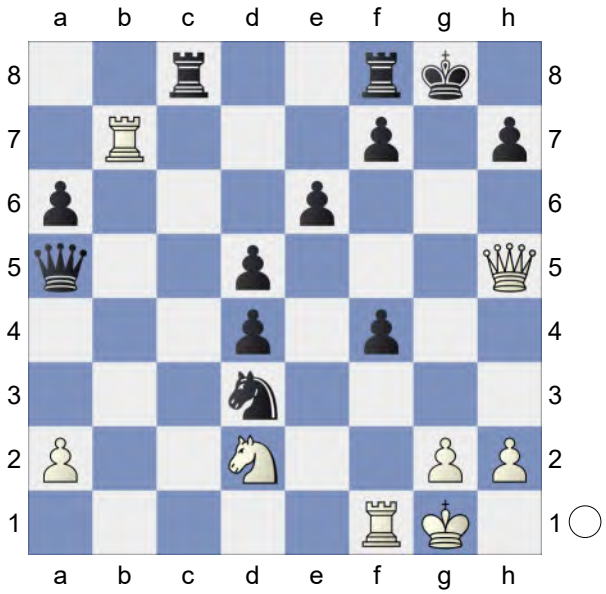
[15.Bd3 gxf4 16.0-0 and Nf3 would now be decisive

A) 16...Nxe5? 5.48/20 16...b5 2.44 17.Nb6 Rb8 18.Nxc8? 1.43/21 *(18.Nf3+-* 4.75/19 is more deadly. *Nxd3 19.Qxd3)* 18...Rxc8±

A1) White should play 19.Nb3!± 1.53/21 Qd8 *(19...Qc7 20.Nxd4)* 20.Nxd4 Discovered Attack;

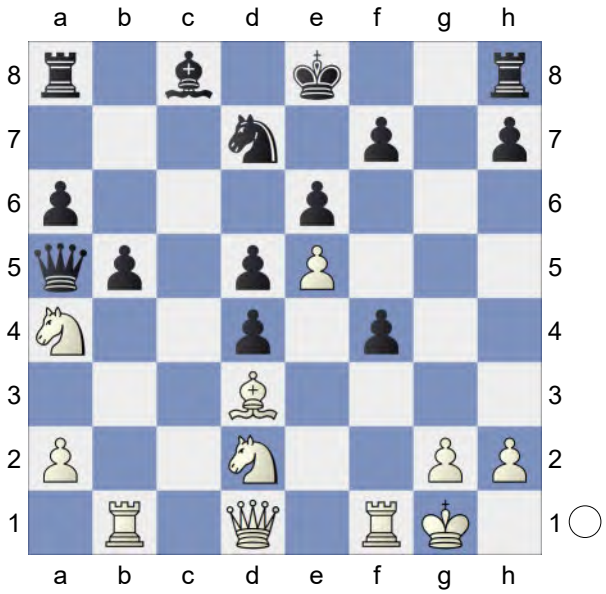
A2) 19.Rxb7? -0.01/18 19...Nxd3= 20.Qh5 Gelfand *(20.Nb3!? Qc3□ 21.Qh5=)* 20...0-0? 2.44/26 *(20...Rf8=* -0.01/23 and Black has nothing to worry. *21.Ne4 Qd8)*

(Diagram)



21.Ne4!+- Intending Nf6+ and mate. Rc1-+ 33.08/28 *(⌓21...Kg7* 2.03/19 *22.Ng5 Rc7)* 22.Rxc1 9.28/24 Gelfand *(⌓22.Qg5+* 33.08/28 *Kh8 23.Rxc1 dxe4 24.Qxa5 Nxc1 25.Qe5+ Kg8 26.Qg5+ Kh8 27.Qc5 Ne2+ 28.Kf2)* 22...Nxc1 23.Nf6+;

B) 16...b5



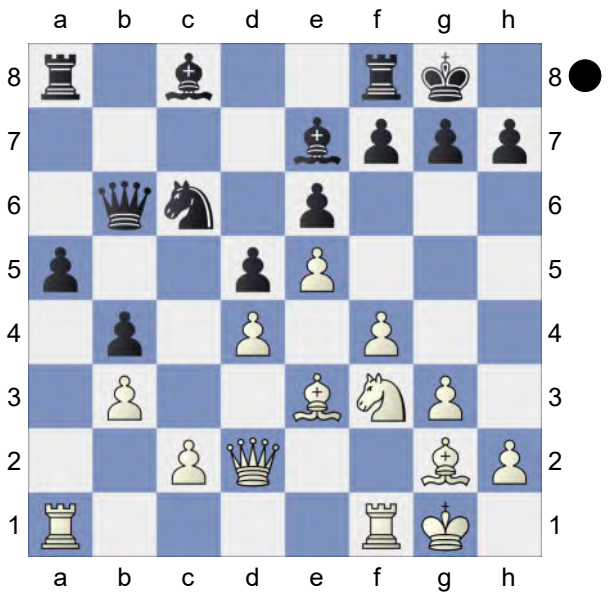
17.Nb2! Nxe5 18.Rxf4 Nc4? 9.13/21 *(18...Rg8* 2.98/17 *19.Nb3 Qd8)* 19.Ndxc4 dxc4 20.Qh5]

[15.fxg5 b5±]
15...Nc5 3.58/19
[15...Qxa2? 3.88/18 15...gxf4 1.74 16.Na4]
[15...gxf4-+ 16.Nd3]
[⌓15...gxf4 2.22/18 16.Nd3 Nb6]
16.Bd3+-
[16.Nd3? 1.04/20 16.Bd3 3.56 Ne4]
[16.fxg5 Bd7±]
16...Bd7 White has a decisive advantage.
[16...Ne4? 7.83/16 16...Qc3 2.99 17.Bxe4 dxe4 18.Nbc4]
17.0-0
[Weaker is 17.fxg5 Qc3±]
17...Qxa2
[17...Nxd3 5.65/20 17...gxf4 3.69 18.Nxd3 Bb5 19.Nf3]
18.fxg5 Qa3! 19.Nf3 a5N 5.63/17
[19...Bb5 3.40/17]
20.Qe2 White is clearly winning. **20...Nb3!∓ 21.Bb5 Bc6 22.Na4 0-0 23.Qd3! Bxb5 24.Qxb5 Nd2 25.Nxd2 Qe3+ 26.Rf2 Rfc8 27.Nf1 Qxg5 28.Nc5 Rc7∓ 29.Nd7 Rd8 30.Nf6+ Kh8! 31.Ne8 Re7 32.Nd6 Rf8 33.Re1 f5 34.Qxa5 f4 35.Qd2 b5 36.Qxd4 f3** Black got outplayed after the opening. Weighted Error Value: White=0.69/ Black=1.43 **37.Qe3** Loss on time!? **0-1**

156 **C11**
☐ **Lynx_BOT** **2682**
■ **pawn_git** **2865**
Rapid 07.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

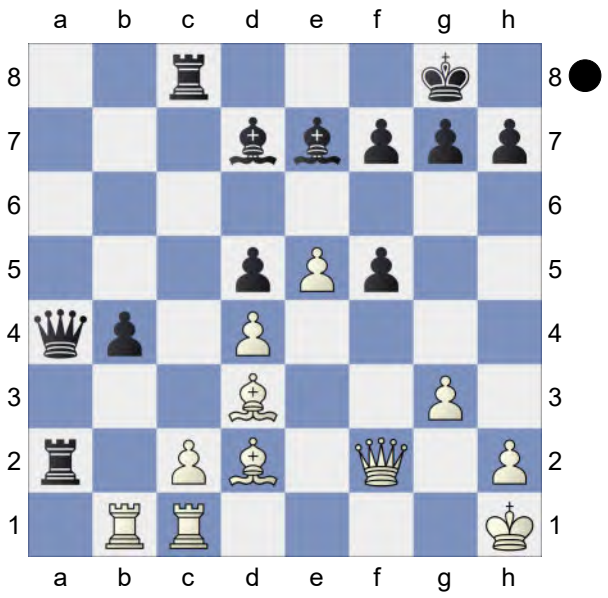
Blitz 5min+5sec C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.Qd2 b5 9.g3** -0.30/17
[9.a3± 0.45/18]
9...Be7N
[9...b4 10.Ne2 a5 11.f5 cxd4 12.Nexd4 Nxd4 13.Nxd4 Nxe5 14.0-0-0 Bd7 15.Bf4 Nc4 16.Qe2 Qf6 17.Bg2 Be7 18.Rhe1 g5 19.fxe6 Bxe6 20.b3 gxf4 21.bxc4 Bc5 22.cxd5 Bxd4 23.dxe6 Be3+ 24.Kb1 1-0 Jimenez Fraga,P (2684)-4.Nf3 a6 5.a4 b6 (2617) EU-ch U14 Girls 30th 2022 (6) Rc8 25.gxf4 Rc3 26.Qb5+ 1-0 Jimenez Fraga,P (2684)-4.♘f3 a6 5.a4 b6_45598 (2617) EU-ch U14 Girls 30th 2022 (6)]
[9...Na5 10.b3 cxd4 11.Nxd4 Qc7 12.Kf2 Bb7 13.Bd3 Rc8 14.Nce2 Nc6 15.Nxc6 Bxc6 16.Nd4 Nc5 17.Nxc6 Qxc6 18.Bxc5 Bxc5+ 19.Kf3 0-0 20.Qe2 Bd4 21.Rad1 Bc3 22.Rhf1 f6 23.exf6 gxf6 24.Kg2 ½-½ Kahmann,K (2070)-Indjic,A (2120) 90/(350) Russia 2004]
10.a3 0-0 11.Bg2 -0.64/15
[White should play 11.dxc5= -0.12/17 Bb7 12.Bg2]
11...b4!∓ Black is slightly better. **12.axb4 cxb4 13.Na4 Nb6! 14.Nxb6 Qxb6 15.0-0 a5 16.b3**

(Diagram)

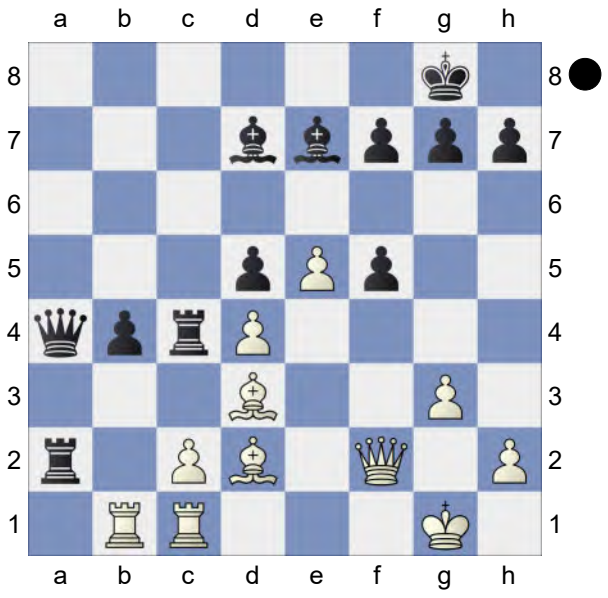


a4! 17.bxa4 Na5 18.Qf2! Bd7 -0.14/18
[18...Nc4∓ -0.62/19 deserves consideration.]
19.Nd2!= Rac8 Black has compensation. **20.Nb3 Rc3** White is on the road to losing. **21.Rfc1** -1.17/21
[21.Nc5∓ -0.45/18 Qc7 22.f5]
21...Rfc8 -0.66/17
[Better is 21...Nxb3∓ -1.17/21 22.cxb3 Rxb3]
22.Bf1!∓ Qa7 -0.59/20 Black has more active pieces.
[22...Nxb3 23.cxb3 Qa7 *(23...Rxb3 24.a5∓)* 24.Rab1±]
[22...g6∓ -0.98/20]
23.f5 -2.09/20 **exf5-+ 24.Nxa5** -2.17/22
[24.Rab1 -1.67/19 was worth a try.]
24...Qxa5 25.Kh1 Ra3
[25...Bxa4 26.Bd3∓]
26.Bd3 Qxa4
[26...Bxa4? too greedy. 27.Qxf5 *(27.Bxf5 Ra8∓)* 27...Kf8 28.Rf1+- *(28.Qxc8+ Be8+-)*]
27.Rab1 Ra2 28.Bd2

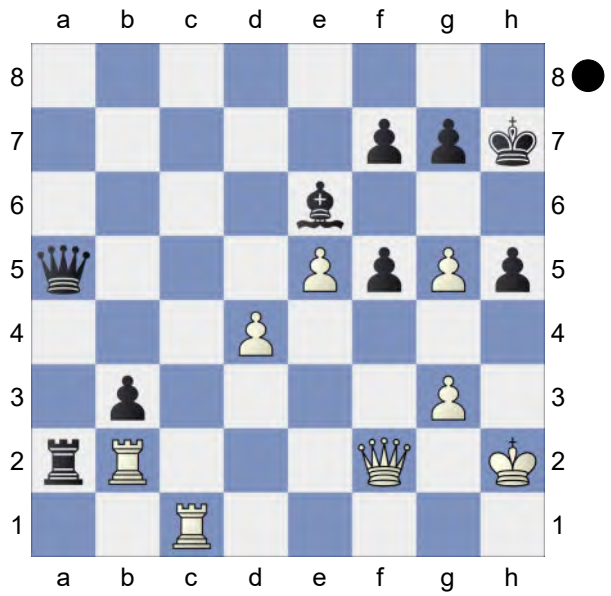
(Diagram)



Rc4! 29.Kg1
[29.h4 Be6]



29...Be6! 30.h4
[30.Rb3 h6]
30...h5 31.Bg5? -5.15/18
[31.Rb3 -2.17/17]
31...Bxg5 32.Bxc4 -7.29/20
[⌓32.hxg5 -4.73/18 Rc3 33.Qd2]
32...dxc4 33.hxg5 b3 White is weak on the light squares **34.cxb3 cxb3 35.Rb2 Qa3 36.Rcb1 Qa5** aiming for ...Qc3. **37.Rc1 Kh7 38.Kh2**

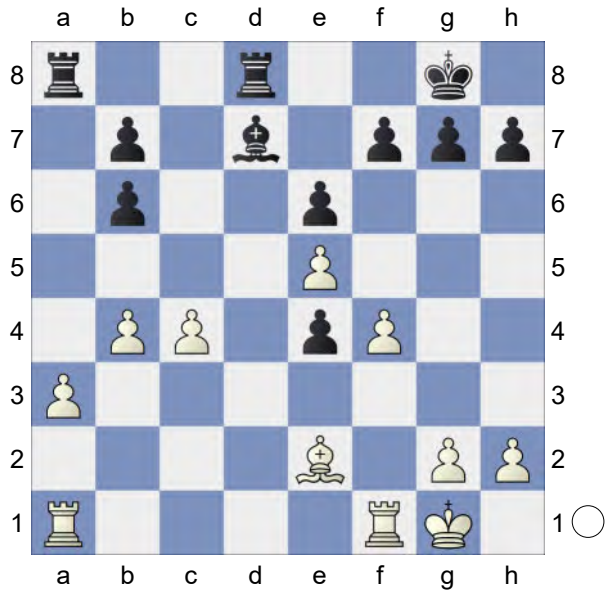


f4! 39.gxf4
[39.Re2 Qa3]
39...Qa3 40.Rcb1 Bf5 41.Rxa2 bxa2 Endgame KQR-KQB
[Inferior is 41...Qxa2 42.Qxa2 bxa2 43.Ra1=]
42.Ra1 Qh3+ 43.Kg1 Be4 44.Qh2 Qc3 45.Rf1 a1Q (→ ...Qe3+) **46.Rxa1 Qxa1+ 47.Kf2 Qxd4+ 48.Ke1 Qc3+ 49.Qd2 Qxd2+ 50.Kxd2** KB-K3P **50...Kg6** (→ ...Bb7) **51.Ke3 Ba8 52.Kf2 Kf5 53.g6 Kxg6** KB-KPP **54.Kg3 Kf5 55.Kh3 Kxf4 56.e6 fxe6 57.Kh2 Be4 58.Kg1 Ke3 59.Kh2 Kf2** (→ ...g6) **60.Kh3 g5** (→ ...Bc2) **61.Kh2 Bf5** (→ ...h4) **62.Kh1 g4 63.Kh2 g3+ 64.Kh1** Weighted Error Value: White=0.94/Black=0.20 (precise) **64...Be4#**
0-1

157 **C11**
□ **KhatanbaatarGM** **2682**
■ **HELMUT_LANG** **2743**
Blitz 11.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

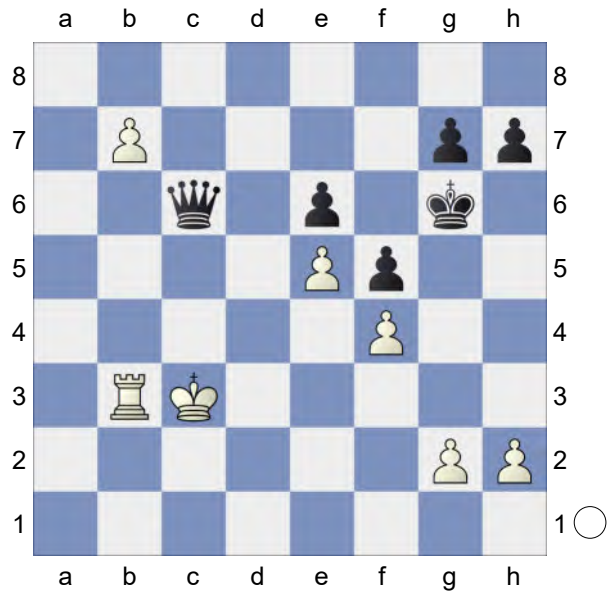
Blitz 3min C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 Kacheishvili,G: 'Inf 83/261' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Qb6 8.a3** 0.17/21
[8.Na4!± 0.57/21 should be considered. Qa5+ 9.c3]
8...Be7
[8...a6 9.Be2 *(9.dxc5 Bxc5 10.Na4 Qa5+ 11.b4 Qxa4 12.bxc5 Qa5+ 13.Qd2 0-0 14.Qxa5 Nxa5 15.Bd3 Nb8 16.0-0 Bd7 17.Rfb1 Bc6 18.Nd4 Nd7 19.Nb3 Nxb3 20.cxb3 Bb5 21.Rd1 Rfc8 22.Rac1 Bxd3 23.Rxd3 Rc7* 1-0 Mukovskiy,P (1914)-Meyer,M (1743) Krefeld op 2023 (8)*)* 9...cxd4 10.Nxd4 Nxd4 11.Bxd4 Bc5 12.Na4 Qa5+ 13.c3 Bxd4 14.Qxd4 Qc7 15.b4 0-0 16.0-0 b6 17.Nb2 Bb7 18.c4 Rfc8 19.Rac1 a5 20.Bf3 axb4 21.axb4 Ra2 22.h3 Nf8 23.Ra1 0-1 Miladinovic,I (2495)-Kacheishvili,G (2583) 83/261 Leon 2001]
9.Be2N
[9.Na4 Qa5+ 10.c3 c4 11.b4 cxb3 12.Qxb3 Qc7 13.Nb2 Na5 14.Qc2 Nb6 15.Bd3 Nac4 16.Nxc4 Nxc4 17.Bd2 Bd7 18.a4 Rc8 19.0-0 Nxd2 20.Qxd2 Qxc3 21.Qe3 0-0 22.Ng5 h6 23.Rac1 Qa5 0-1 Vo,V (1745)-Trichkov,V (2136) Texas Collegiate Finals 2023 (8.5) 24.Qh3 Rxc1 25.Rxc1 Qxa4 26.Nf3 Qa3 0-1 Benhaim,L (1745)-Slagter,D (2136) Agneaux St Lo op-B 14th 2012 (8.5)]

9...0-0 10.0-0 cxd4 White is slightly better. **11.Nxd4 Nxd4 12.Bxd4 Bc5 13.Bxc5** -0.01/20
[13.Kh1± 0.41/21]
13...Nxc5= 14.Qd4 Bd7! Against Nb5
15.b4 Ne4 2.53/21
[15...Na4= -0.07/20 and Black stays safe. 16.Qxb6 axb6 17.Nxa4 Rxa4]
16.Qxb6+- axb6 17.Nxe4 dxe4 18.c4? 0.41/22
[18.b5+- 2.52/20]
18...Rfd8 1.79/21
[Better is 18...Ba4!± 0.41/22]



19.b5! Be8 2.64/21
[19...f5± 1.17/22]
20.Kf2? 1.00/20
[20.Rfd1+- 2.64/21 and White stays clearly on top.]
20...f5± 21.Rfc1? 0.01/19
[21.exf6± 1.56/19 gxf6 22.Rh1]
21...Rd2= 22.Ke3 Rb2 23.a4 Kf8 24.c5 -0.37/25
[24.g3= 0.01/24]
24...bxc5∓ 25.Rxc5 Rd8 0.32/21
[25...g5!∓ -0.44/23 26.g3 gxf4+ 27.gxf4 Rb3+ 28.Kd2 Rh3]
26.Rac1± Bh5! Deflection **27.R1c2**
[27.Bxh5? Rd3#]
27...Rb3+
[27...Rxc2 28.Rxc2 Bxe2 29.Kxe2 Ra8]
28.R5c3 Bxe2
[28...Rxc3+ 29.Rxc3 Bxe2 30.Kxe2 Ra8]
29.Rxb3= Endgame KRR-KRB
[29.Kxe2 Rxc3 30.Rxc3 Ra8 31.Rc4]
29...Bd1 30.Rbc3 Bxc2 31.Rxc2 KR-KR **31...Rd3+ 32.Ke2 Ra3 33.Rc8+ Kf7 34.Rc7+ Kg6 35.Rxb7 Rxa4 36.b6 Ra2+ 37.Ke3 Ra3+ 38.Kd4 e3 39.Rc7!**
[39.Re7? e2 40.Ra7 e1Q-+ *(40...e1R? 41.Rxa3 Rd1+ 42.Kc4+-)*]
39...Rb3 40.Rc3
[Avoid the trap 40.Rc6? e2 41.Rc1 *(41.Rxe6+? Kf7-+)* 41...Rxb6-+]
40...e2 Threatens to win with ...Rxc3.
[40...Rxb6 simplifies 41.Kxe3 Rb2 42.Kf3 Kh5]
41.Rxb3 e1Q KQ-KR
[41...e1B? 42.b7 Bf2+ 43.Re3+-]
42.b7⇄ White is not holding back
42...Qe4+ 43.Kc3 Active counter play! Black is on the road to losing.
43...Qc6+? 7.89/22
[43...Qxf4? 44.b8Q+- *(44.b8R? Qxe5+ 45.Kd3 Qd5+ 46.Ke3 Qxg2-+)*]
[43...Qe1+= -0.01/26 44.Kc2 Qe2+ 45.Kc3 Qe3+ *(45...Qxg2? 46.b8Q+-)* 46.Kc2 Qf2+ *(46...Qxf4? 47.b8Q+-)* 47.Kb1 Qg1+ *(47...Qxg2? 48.Rg3++-)* 48.Kb2 Qd4+ *(48...Qxg2+? 49.Ka3+-)* 49.Kc2 Qc5+ *(49...Qxf4? 50.Rg3+ Kh5 51.b8Q+-)* 50.Kd3 Qd5+ 51.Kc3 Qa5+ *(51...Qxg2? 52.b8Q+-)* 52.Kb2 Qd2+ 53.Kb1 Qd1+ *(53...Qxf4?*

54.Rg3+ Kh5 55.b8Q+-) 54.Kb2 Qd2+]

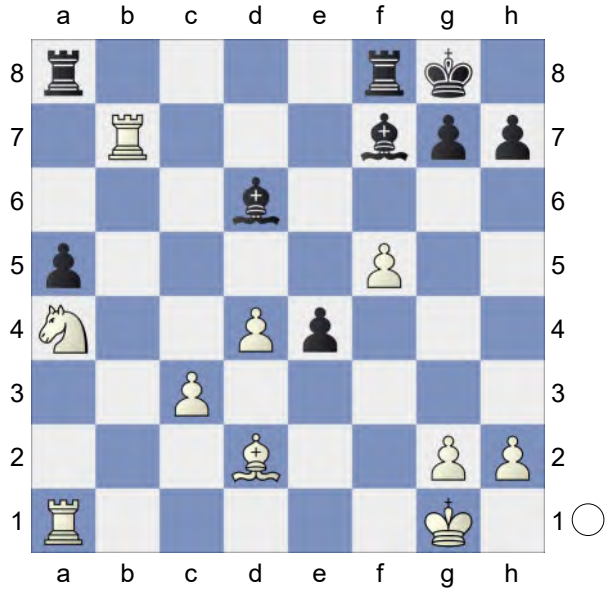


44.Kb2!+- Qxg2+ 45.Ka3 Qf1 46.b8Q
[46.b8B? loses. Qc1+ *(46...Qxf4? 47.Rg3+ Kf7 48.Bd6-+)* 47.Ka2 Qxf4 48.Rg3+ Kf7-+]
46...Qa1+ 47.Kb4 Qd4+ 48.Ka5 Qd2+ 49.Rb4 Qa2+ 50.Kb6 Qf2+ 51.Kc7 Hoping for Qe8+. **51...Qc5+ 52.Kd7 Qd5+ 53.Ke7 Kh5 54.Qd6 Qa5 55.Kxe6** White threatens Qd3! and mate. **55...Kg4 56.Qd1+ Kh4 57.Qe1+ Kh5 58.Qe2+** White mates. **58...Kh4 59.Qf2+ Kh5 60.Qf3+ Kh6 61.Qh3+ Kg6 62.Qg3+ Kh6** Weighted Error Value: White=0.27 (precise) /Black=0.60 **63.Qg5#**
1-0

158 **C11**
□ **Esipenko,Andrey** **2682**
■ **Korobov,A.** **2628**
FIDE Grand Swiss 2025 (2.25) 05.09.25
[Kitty Kat]

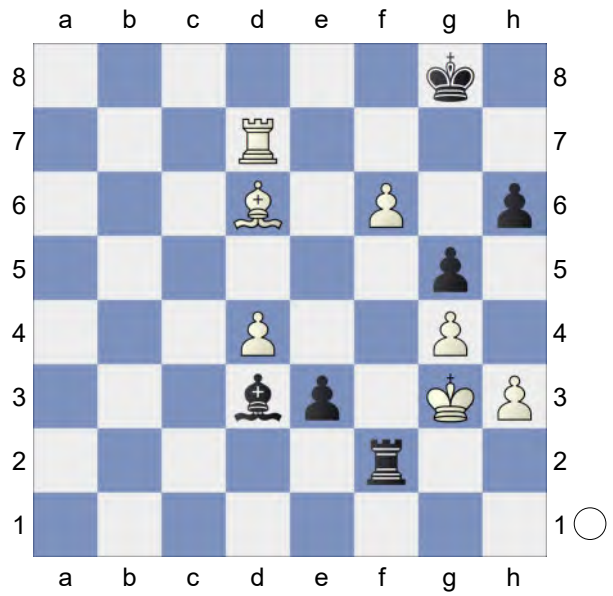
C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.Be2 b5 9.a3**
[9.0-0 cxd4 10.Nxd4 Bc5 11.Bf3 0-0 12.Nce2 b4 13.Kh1 Nxd4 14.Nxd4 a5 4) French Classical Variation-French Classical Variation 1… e6 Against Everything 2024]
9...b4N 0.71/20
[9...Qb6= 0.17/19 10.0-0 Nxd4 11.Nxd4 cxd4 12.Bxd4 Bc5 13.Bxc5 Nxc5 14.Qd4 Na4 15.Qxb6 Nxb6 16.Bd3 Bd7 17.b3 Ke7 18.Rae1 h6 19.Rf3 Rag8 20.Ne2 g6 21.Nd4 h5 22.Kf2 Rc8 23.Ke3 Bc6 24.Ra1 Bb7 ½-½ Pechac,J (2620)-Shevchenko,K (2645) POL-chT Ekstraliga 2022 (5.4)]
[9...Bb7 10.0-0 Qc7 11.Qd2 0-0-0 12.Rae1 g5 13.fxg5 cxd4 14.Nxd4 Ndxe5 15.Ncxb5 axb5 16.Nxb5 Qe7 17.Qc3 Rg8 18.Rf4 Rxg5 19.Rb4 Kb8 20.Rb3 Rxg2+ 21.Kxg2 d4 22.Nxd4 Nxd4+ 23.Kh3 Nec6 24.Rb4 0-1 Zude,E (2401)-Nepomniachtchi,I (2602) 8th ch-Euro Dresden GER 2007 (1) Nxb4 25.Bxd4 Qg5 26.Be5+ Bd6 27.Bf3 Nd5 28.Bxd5 Bxd5 29.Qb4+ Kc8 30.Qc3+ Kd7 0-1 Kazhgaleyev,M (2401)-Sergeev (2602) Campinas IRT LCX 06th 2008 (1)]
10.axb4± cxb4 11.Na4 White is better.
11...Be7 1.01/18
[11...Nb6± 0.62/20]
12.0-0 0-0 1.33/20

[⌓12...Nb6 0.76/18]
13.Bd3 a5 14.Qe2 0.69/18
[14.Ng5± 1.09/21 Bxg5 15.fxg5]
14...f5 1.28/18
[14...Nb6!≛ 0.69/18]
15.exf6 0.89/16
[15.c3 1.28/18]
15...Nxf6 16.Bd2 0.57/20
[16.c3± 1.03/17]
16...Qc7 17.c3 bxc3 18.bxc3 Bd7 1.23/17
[Better is 18...Bd6≛ 0.64/16]
19.Ng5! Nd8 20.Rfb1 0.59/17
[20.f5± 1.49/20]
20...Be8 1.39/18
[20...Bc6≛ 0.59/17]
21.Nxe6 Nxe6 22.Qxe6+ Bf7 23.Qb6 White is much more active. **23...Qc8 24.f5** 0.60/22 Inhibits Bg6.
[White should try 24.Qb7!± 1.20/18 Qd8 25.Nb6]
24...Ne4≛ 25.Bxe4 dxe4 26.Qb7 Qxb7 27.Rxb7 Bd6 1.38/19
[27...Bd8≛ 0.42/20]

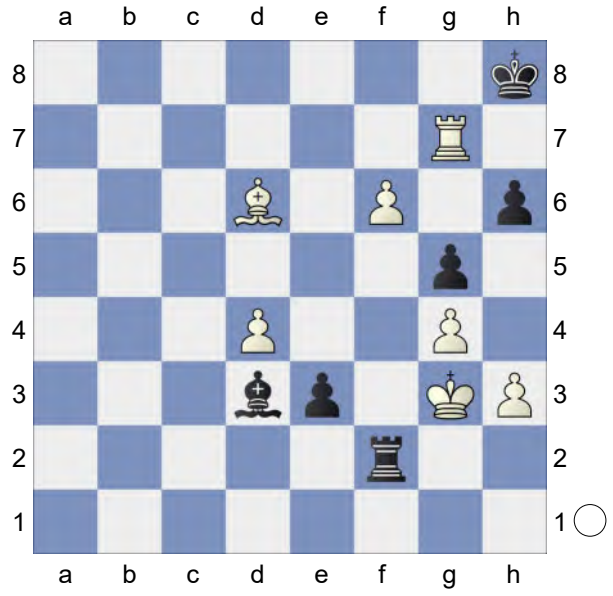


Black is weak on the dark squares **28.c4** 0.70/23 **Bxc4** 1.28/22
[28...Bb4≛ 0.70/23 29.Bxb4 axb4]
29.Nb6!± Ba6 30.Rd7↑ Keeping Black busy.
[30.Rxa5? Bxb7 31.Nxa8 Rxa8-+]
30...Rad8 31.Rxa5 Bd3 32.g4! Rxd7 33.Nxd7 Rd8 34.Nc5 Be2? 5.70/23
[34...Bxc5± 0.81/20 35.dxc5 g6]
35.Ne6 2.70/22
[35.Nxe4 Bc7 36.Ra4 Bxg4=]
[⌓35.Nb7 5.70/23]
35...Rd7 36.Ra8+ Kf7 37.Ng5+ Ke7 38.h3
[38.Nxh7 Bxg4 39.Ra5 Bc7=]
[38.Nxe4 Bf3±]
38...h6 4.19/22
[⌓38...g6 2.70/20 39.Kf2 *(39.Nxe4 gxf5 40.gxf5 Kf7+-)* 39...Bd3]
39.Kf2 2.45/21
[⌓39.Nxe4 4.19/22 Bf3 40.Ra1]
39...Bd3 3.73/22
[⌓39...Bc4 2.45/21]
40.Ne6+- Kf7 4.37/23 Inhibits Rg8.
[⌓40...Bc4 3.04/21 41.Nxg7 Rb7]
41.Bf4 Be7 42.Be5 Rb7 43.Nd8+? 1.04/26
[43.Nxg7 Rb2+ 44.Kg3 e3-+]
[43.d5+- 5.11/21]
43...Bxd8± 44.Rxd8 Endgame KRB-KRB. White is a pawn up. **44...Rb2+ 45.Kg3!** Hoping for Rd7+. **45...e3?** 5.92/28
[45...Rb3± 1.26/21 is a better chance.]
46.Bd6!+- g5 47.Rd7+ Kg8 48.f6! Rf2

(Diagram)



49.Rg7+! Kh8



50.Re7! Bc4 51.Rxe3 2.57/25
[⌓51.Be5 5.91/26 White wants to mate with f7+. Kg8 52.Rg7+ Kf8 53.Bd6+ Ke8 54.Re7+ Kd8 55.Rxe3]
51...Rf1? 7.32/24
[51...Rd2 2.57/25 52.Bb4 Rb2]
52.Re7 White is clearly winning.
52...Bd5 53.Be5 Rf3+ 54.Kh2 Kg8 55.Rg7+ Kf8 Weighted Error Value: White=0.44/Black=0.62 **56.Rh7**
1-0

159 **C11**
□ **ardkvna** **2682**
■ **Comandante_ChessMood** **2839**
Blitz 21.11.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Ng8 5.Nce2**
[5.Be3 Ne7 6.f4 Nf5 7.Bf2 h5 8.Nf3 b6 9.g3 Ba6 10.Bxa6 Nxa6 11.Ne2 Qd7 12.0-0 c5 13.c3 c4 14.h3 b5 15.Kg2 b4 16.g4 hxg4 17.hxg4 Nh6 18.Rh1 Rg8 19.g5 Nf5 1-0 Berg,K (2439)-Dworakowska,J (2382) Aarhus GM 2003 (6)]
[5.Qh5 c5 6.Nf3 g6 7.Qg4 Nc6 8.Bg5 Qb6 9.0-0-0 Be7 10.Bxe7 Ngxe7 11.Nb5 Nf5 12.Qf4 0-0 13.g4 Nfxd4 14.Nbxd4 Nxd4 15.Nxd4 cxd4 16.g5 Bd7 17.h4 Rfc8 18.h5 Ba4 19.Bd3 Bxc2 ½-½ Leisebein,V (163)-Bataille,B (127) Kortschnoj 70 rapid 2001 (3)]
5...c5 6.c3 Bd7N
[6...Nc6 7.Nf3 f6 8.Nf4 g5 9.Nh5 g4 10.Nxf6+ Nxf6 11.Bg5 Be7 12.exf6 Bxf6 13.Bxf6 Qxf6 14.Ne5 Nxe5 15.dxe5 Qxe5+ 16.Be2 Bd7 17.0-0 h5 18.Qd2 0-0-0 19.Rae1 Qd6 20.f4 gxf3 21.Bxf3 0-1 Sergeant,E-117. Dortmund 1993 Bb5 22.Be2 Bc6 23.Rf6 Rdf8 24.Rxf8+ Qxf8 25.Bf3 Qd6 26.Qg5 d4 27.Bxc6 bxc6 28.Qg6 Rd8 29.Qxe6+ Qxe6 30.Rxe6 Kc7 31.Kf1 Rb8 32.Re2 Kd6 33.c4 Rf8+ 34.Ke1 Rf5 35.Kd2 Rf1 36.Kd3 0-1 Sergeant,E-N,N Dortmund 1993 Rd1+ 37.Ke4 Rf1 38.b3 a5 39.Kd3 Rc1 40.Ke4 a4 41.Kf5 Rc3 42.h4 axb3 43.axb3 Re3 44.Rf2 Rg3 45.Re2 Rg4 46.Re6+ Kd7 47.Rf6

Rxh4 48.Ke5 Kc7 49.b4 d3 50.bxc5 Rxc4 51.Rf7+ 0-1 Rogulj,B-Zaja,I Croatian Team Championship, Medulin 1997]

7.Nf3 Qb6 8.a4 0.27/20
[8.g3± 0.73/19]

8...Nc6= 9.h4 Nh6 10.g3! cxd4 11.Nexd4 Bc5 1.16/20
[11...Ng4± 0.50/20]

12.Bg2? -0.50/22 White is more active.
[12.Bxh6± 1.16/20 gxh6 13.Bb5]

12...Bxd4 0.47/22
[12...Nf5∓ -0.50/22]

13.cxd4 -0.56/20
[13.Nxd4± 0.47/22 Nxd4 14.Bxh6 *(14.Qxd4 Qxd4 15.cxd4 Nf5∓; 14.cxd4 Nf5∓)*]

13...Nf5∓ 14.0-0 Ncxd4 15.a5 Nxf3+ -0.16/21
[15...Qb4∓ -0.54/22 is superior.]

16.Qxf3= Qd4 0.19/22
[16...Qc7∓ -0.47/20]

17.Bf4 -0.62/17
[17.Rd1!= 0.19/22 Qxe5 18.Bf4 Qxb2 19.Rab1 Deflection]

17...Bc6? 1.62/17
[17...Qxb2?! 18.Rfb1 Qc2 *(18...Qd4 19.Qa3±)* 19.Rc1± *(19.Rxb7 Qc8±)*]
[17...0-0∓ -0.62/17 keeps the upper hand.]

18.a6? -0.78/18
[18.Qa3+- 1.62/17 and Rfd1 should not be overlooked b5 19.axb6 Qxb6 20.Rfc1]

18...0-0∓
[18...Qxb2? 19.Rab1 Qc2 20.axb7 Bxb7 21.Rxb7+-]

19.b3 -1.28/17
[White should try 19.h5∓ -0.47/18]

19...Qb6 20.axb7 Rab8 21.h5 -1.50/17
[⌓21.Qc3 -1.10/17]

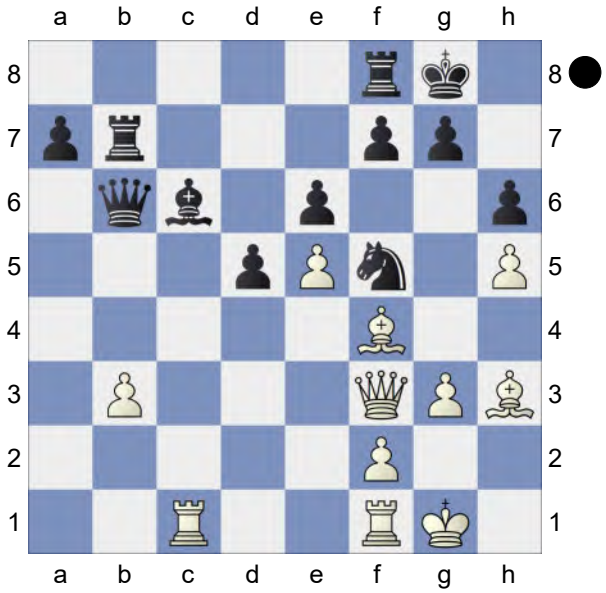
21...Rxb7 -0.27/19
[21...h6∓ -1.50/17 22.Bd2 Bxb7 *(22...Rxb7 23.Rfc1∓)*]

22.Rac1 -1.61/18
[22.h6= -0.27/19]

22...h6!-+ 23.Bh3 Nd4? -0.03/17
[23...Qxb3? 24.Qxb3 Rxb3 25.Rxc6+-]
[23...Ne7∓ -1.60/18 24.Qg4 Nf5 *(24...Qxb3? 25.Bxh6 Nf5 26.Bxg7+-)*]

24.Qg4= Nf5⇄ Prevents Be3. Black puts up resistance
[24...Qxb3? 25.Bxh6 Nf5 *(25...Nf3+? 26.Kg2+-)* 26.Bxg7 Nxg7 27.h6+- *(27.Rxc6 Kh7±)*]
[24...Bb5 feels hotter. 25.Bxh6 f5 26.exf6 Rxf6]

25.Qf3!



Rc8 -0.70/18
[25...Qxb3? 26.Qxb3 Rxb3 27.Rxc6+-]
[25...Ne7!-+ -1.62/16 and ...d4! should not be overlooked 26.Qg4 Nf5 *(26...Qxb3? 27.Bxh6 Nf5 28.Bxg7+-)*]

26.Kh2? -2.44/16
[26.Bxf5∓ -0.70/18 exf5 27.Be3]

26...Nd4? -0.10/16
[26...Qxb3 27.Rc3 Qb5 28.Rfc1]

[Black should play 26...d4-+ -2.44/16 27.Qd3 Qxb3 28.Qxb3 Rxb3]

27.Qg4 White leaves nothing to chance now. **27...Kh7?** 4.28/19

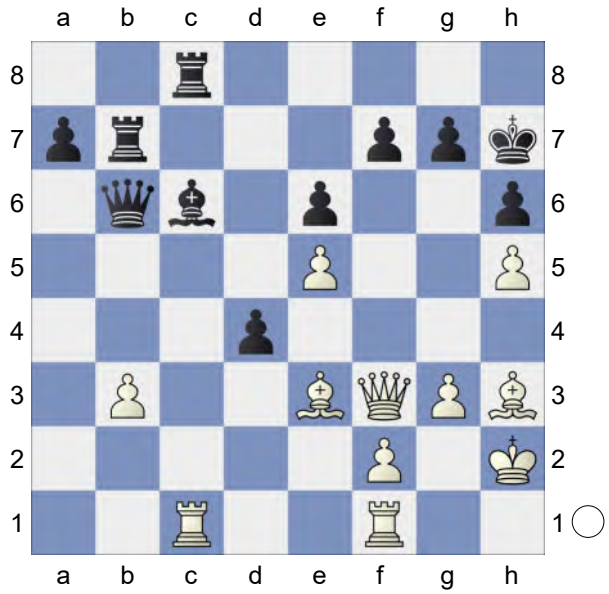
[27...Nxb3? is the wrong capture. 28.Bxh6 f5 29.exf6+-]

[27...Qc7= -0.19/23 and Black stays safe.]

28.Be3+- Discovered Attack **28...Nf3+** 5.63/20

[⌓28...a5 4.02/19 29.Rc3 *(29.Qxd4 Qxd4 30.Bxd4 Rxb3+-; 29.Bxd4 Qxb3 30.Qf4 Rcc7+-)* 29...Bd7]

29.Qxf3 White is clearly winning. **29...d4**



30.Rxc6 Qxc6 31.Qxc6 Rxc6 32.Bg2

[Not 32.Bxd4 Rxb3 33.Ra1 *(33.Bxa7 Ra6+-)* 33...Rc4+-]

32...dxe3 33.Bxc6 Rxb3 34.fxe3 Rxe3 35.Rxf7 Rxe5 Endgame KRB-KR **36.g4 a5 37.Ra7 Rc5 38.Be8 Kg8 39.Bg6** Intending Ra8+ and mate. **39...Kf8 40.Kg3 e5 41.Rf7+ Kg8 42.Re7 Rc8** Weighted Error Value: White=0.59/ Black=0.78 **43.Rxe5**

1-0

160 **C05**

□ **beatles_21** **2681**

■ **ChainsOfFantasia** **2653**

Blitz 14.04.2022

[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 Minic,D: 'Inf 22/225' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 Qb6 8.Nf3 cxd4 9.Nexd4 Nc5**

[9...Bc5 10.Be2 0-0 11.Qd3 Re8 12.g4 f6 13.b4 Bxd4 14.cxd4 Qxb4+ 15.Bd2 Qe7 16.0-0 b6 17.Rac1 Bb7 18.Bd1 Rec8 19.Bc2 Nf8 20.exf6 Qxf6 21.f5 exf5 22.Bg5 Qd6 23.Qxf5 g6 24.Qd3 1-0 Tay,J-Jonkheer,A (2350) Hallsberg op 9394 U18 1993]

10.Be2N

[10.Qc2 a6 *(10...Bd7 11.Be3 Nxd4 12.Nxd4 Qc7 13.Be2 Be7 14.0-0 0-0 15.Rf3 f6 16.exf6 Bxf6 17.Raf1 a6 18.Kh1 b5 19.Bg1 Rab8 20.h3 Bc8 21.Bd3 Nxd3 22.Qxd3 Qc4 23.Qb1 Bd7 24.Nb3 Rbc8 25.Bd4* 1-0 Hort,V-Keene,R 22/225 Hastings 1975 *)* 11.Be3 Qc7 12.Be2 b5 13.Nxc6 Qxc6 14.0-0 g6 15.Kh1 Bb7 16.Nd4 Qc7 17.Bg1 Be7 18.Nf3 Na4 19.Bd4 Nb6 20.Bd3 Bc6 21.Qf2 Rb8 22.Qg3 Na4 23.Qf2 Nb6 24.Rae1 Ba8 1-0 Stoddard,E-Pedersen,N USCCC-4 Final 1980-82]

[10.b3 Bd7 11.Bb2 Rc8 12.Bd3 Nxd4 13.Nxd4 Na4 14.Qd2 Nxb2 15.Qxb2 Rxc3 16.Kd2 Qxd4 Chapter Quizzes-Game Chapter Quizzes 1-100]

10...Ne4 11.0-0 -0.01/22

[11.Qc2± 0.37/21 should be considered.]

11...Nxd4 12.Nxd4 White is slightly better. **12...Bc5 13.Bf3 0-0 14.Bxe4 dxe4 15.Rf2 Bd7 16.Be3 Rad8** 0.86/21

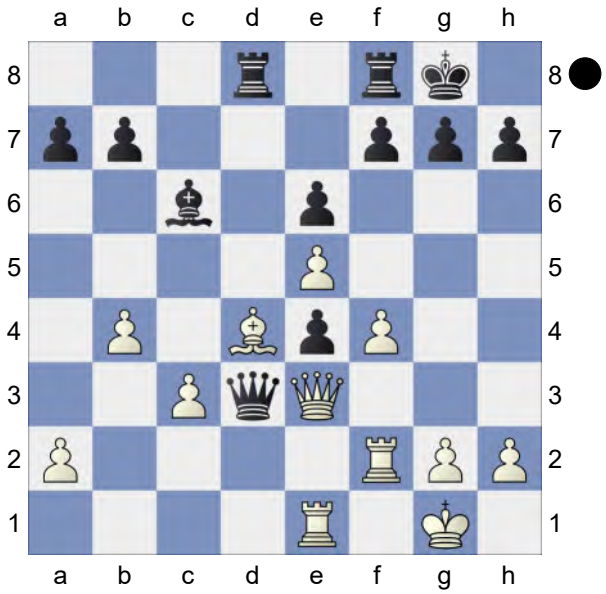
[16...a5= -0.10/17 keeps the balance.]

17.b4± Bxd4 18.Bxd4 Qa6 19.Qd2 0.40/16

[19.a4± 1.06/17]

19...Bc6 20.Qe3 Qd3 21.Re1 -0.01/18

[White should try 21.Qxd3!± 0.56/19 exd3 22.Rd2]



21...a5! 22.a3 axb4

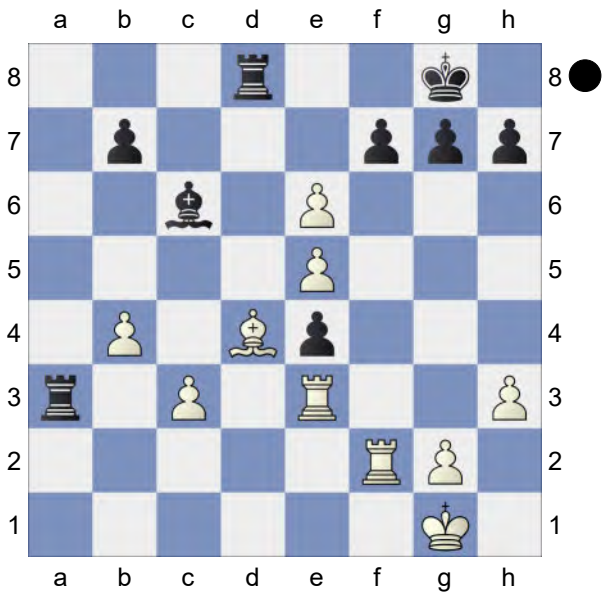
[22...Qxe3 23.Rxe3 Ra8 24.g4 axb4 25.axb4 Ra1+]

23.axb4 Ra8 24.h3 Ra3 25.f5 And now fxe6 would win. **25...Qxe3 26.Rxe3 Rd8** And now ...Rxd4! would win.

[26...Ra1+ simplifies 27.Kh2 exf5 28.Rxf5 Re8]

27.fxe6

(Diagram)



Rxd4?? 8.72/22 28.exf7++- Kf8? 8.38/19

[28...Kh8= 0.00/5 29.f8Q#]

29.e6?? -3.67/19

[29.cxd4+- 8.38/19 Ra1+ 30.Kh2]

29...Rd8-+ 30.b5? -5.27/21

[30.Rf5 -2.76/17 was called for. g6 31.Re5]

30...Bd5 Black is clearly winning.

[And not 30...Bxb5 31.e7+ *(31.Rxe4 Ke7∓)* 31...Kxe7 32.f8B+ *(32.Rxe4+? Kf8-+)* 32...Rxf8 33.Rxe4+ Kd6 34.Rxf8+-]

31.Rg3 g6 32.c4 Rxg3 33.cxd5 Rd3!

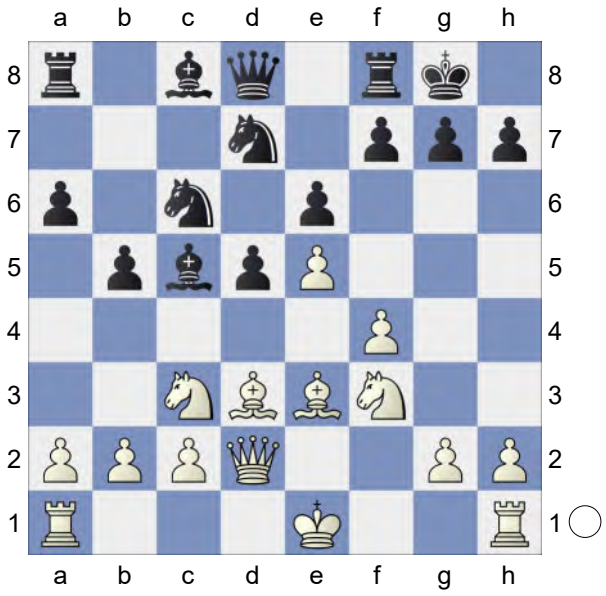
[33...Rxd5? perishes. 34.e7+ Kxe7 35.f8Q++- *(35.f8R Rxb5 36.R8f7+ Ke6∓)*]

34.Re2 Weighted Error Value: White=0.91/Black=0.54 **34...e3**

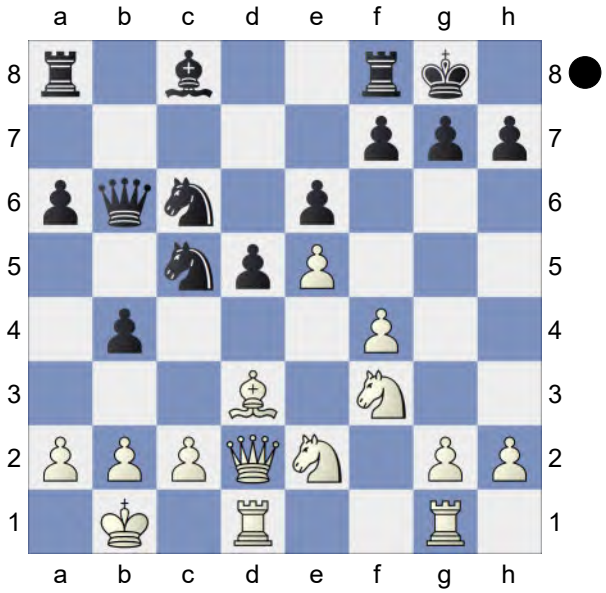
0-1

161 **C11**
□ **Robson,Ray** **2680**
■ **Lenderman,A.** **2623**
Millionaire Chess Op 2015 (7.4) 11.10.15
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.Qd2 b5 9.dxc5 Bxc5 10.Bd3 0-0** 1.17/21
[10...Qb6= 0.12/17 11.Bf2 0-0 *(11...Bb7 12.0-0 Rc8 13.Rae1 0-0 14.Bxh7+ Kxh7 15.Ng5+ Kg8 16.Qd3 Rfd8 17.Qh7+ Kf8 18.Qh5* French Advanced-8. ♕d2 ♗g7 9.0-0 0-0_78521 Survey 2022 *)*]
[10...d4 11.Nxd4 Nxd4 12.Ne4 Qh4+ 13.Bf2 Qg4 14.Bxd4 Bxd4 15.Nd6+ Ke7 16.Be4 Bxb2 17.Rb1 Ba3 18.Bxa8 Bc5 19.Bf3 Qg6 20.Ne4 Rd8 21.Rd1 Bb6 22.Qb4+ 1-0 10. ♗a3 b6 11.ba5 ♘h5_1525 (2782)-11... ♕c7 12. ♘bd2 cd4 13.c,4 (2784) 10 Leningrad 1956 (4)]



11.0-0-0 0.07/18
[11.Bxh7+!± 1.17/21 Kxh7 12.Ng5+ Kg8 13.Qd3 Qxg5 14.fxg5]
11...Qb6=
[11...d4?! 12.Nxd4 Bb7 *(12...Nxd4 13.Be4±; 12...Bxd4 13.Bxd4 Qa5 14.Qe3±)* 13.Nb3 Bxe3 14.Qxe3±]
12.Bg1 White is slightly better.
12...Bxg1N
[12...f6 13.exf6 Nxf6 14.Bxc5 Qxc5 15.Rhe1 Bd7 16.Kb1 g6 17.Ne5 Nxe5 18.Rxe5 Qb6 19.Rde1 a5 20.Rg5 b4 21.Ne2 Qf2 22.Kc1 Ne4 23.Bxe4 dxe4 24.Ng3 Qxf4 25.Qxf4 Rxf4 26.Rxe4 Rf2 27.Re2 1 Chapter-Games Chapter 82 Game]
13.Rhxg1 Nc5 14.Kb1 b4 15.Ne2



a5!↑ Black is pushing. **16.Qe3!** **Rd8** 0.01/19
[Better is 16...Re8!∓ -0.60/20]
17.g4 -1.07/22
[17.f5= 0.01/19 remains equal. exf5 18.Ned4]
17...Ba6∓ White does not recover from this. **18.f5?** -4.05/19
[18.Bxa6∓ -0.73/18 Rxa6 19.f5]
18...b3-+ **19.cxb3** -5.91/22
[19.axb3 d4 20.Qg5 h6-+]
[19.Bxa6 -3.56/17 bxc2+ 20.Kxc2]
19...d4 Black is clearly winning.

[19...Bxd3+ 20.Rxd3 d4 21.Rxd4 Nxd4 22.Nexd4=]

20.Qg5 h6

[20...Nxd3? 21.f6 Kf8 *(21...g6 22.Qh6 Ndxe5 23.Qg7#)* 22.fxg7+ Kg8 23.Qh6+-]

21.Qh5 Bxd3+

[21...Nxd3 22.g5 Ncxe5 *(22...Ndxe5 23.gxh6 g6 24.fxg6+-)* 23.gxh6+-]

22.Rxd3 And now g5! would win.

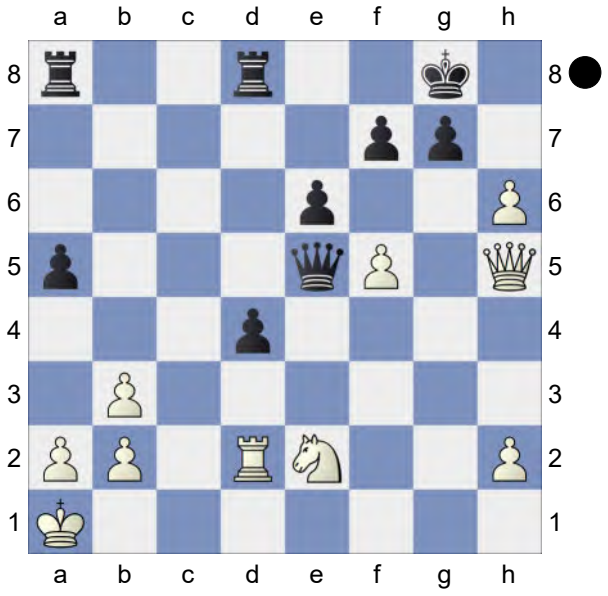
22...Qb5 Pin

[22...Nxd3 23.g5 Ncxe5 *(23...exf5 24.gxh6 Ncxe5 25.hxg7±)* 24.gxh6∓]

23.Rd2 Ne4 Prevents g5. **24.Rgd1 Nxd2+ 25.Rxd2 Qd5**

[25...Nxe5 26.fxe6 f6 27.Nfxd4 Rxd4 28.a4 Rxd2 29.axb5 Rxe2 30.b6 Re1+ 31.Kc2 *(31.Ka2? Nd3-+)* 31...Rc8+ 32.Kd2 Nf3+ 33.Kd3 Rd8+ *(33...Rxe6? 34.Qd5-+)* 34.Kc4 Nd2+ *(34...Rxe6? 35.b4-+; 34...Rd4+? 35.Kc5-+)* 35.Kc5 Re5+ *(35...Nxb3+? 36.Kc6-+; 35...Rxe6? 36.g5-+)* 36.Kc6 Rxh5 *(36...Rxe6+? 37.Kc7-+)* 37.gxh5]

26.g5 Qe4+ 27.Ka1 Nxe5 28.Nxe5 Qxe5 29.gxh6



g6 30.Qh4 exf5 31.a3 d3 32.Nf4 Rd4 33.Nxd3 Qd6 34.Qg5 Kh7 And now ... a4! would win.

[Worse is 34...Rxd3 35.Rxd3 Qxh2 *(35...Qxd3?* perishes. *36.Qf6+-)* 36.Ka2=]

35.Qe3 Rd8 36.Ne5 Rxd2 37.Nxf7 Qf6 38.Ng5+ Weighted Error Value: White=1.22/Black=0.25 (precise)

38...Kh8

[Weaker is 38...Kxh6 39.Ne4+ f4 40.Qh3+ Kg7 41.Nxf6 Kxf6 42.b4∓]

0-1

162 **C11**

□ **Salem,A R Saleh** **2679**

■ **Harikrishna,Pentala** **2701**

Prague Masters 4th (8) 16.06.2022

[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Qb6 8.Na4 Qa5+ 9.c3 b6 10.Bd2 c4 11.b4 Qa6** 0.85/19

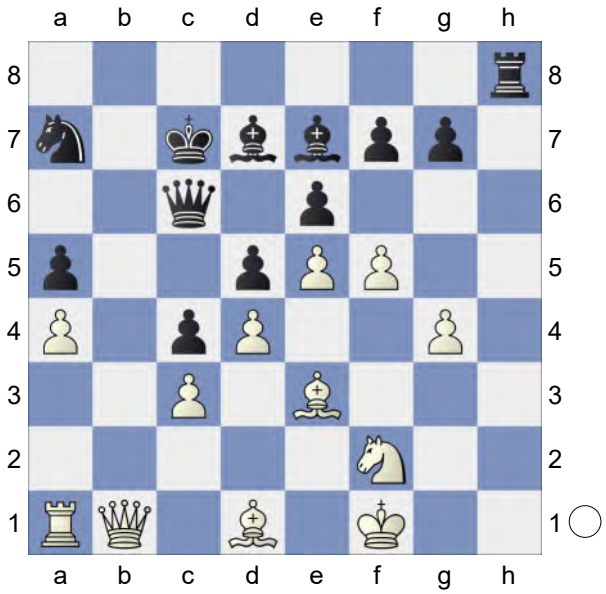
[11...Nxb4!± 0.39/22 12.cxb4 Bxb4]

12.a3± Be7 13.g4N 0.50/20

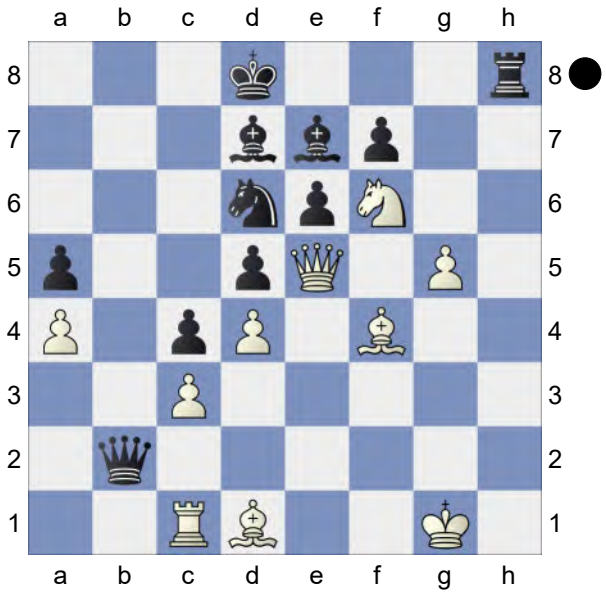
[13.Be2± 0.88/16]

[13.g3 Qb7 *(13...f5 14.exf6 gxf6 15.f5 e5 16.Bh3 Bb7 17.0-0 0-0-0 18.Rb1 b5 19.Nc5 Nxc5 20.bxc5 Rhe8 21.Re1 Bf8 22.Qc1 Na5 23.Qb2 Nb3 24.Be3 Bxc5 25.dxc5 d4 26.cxd4 Bxf3 27.dxe5 Rxe5 28.Bf4* 0-1 Kortschnoj,V (2587)-5.00 b5 6.Bb3 Bc5 7.c3 d6 (2633) French under 20 Ch 1999 (8)*)* 14.Bh3 g6 15.0-0 h5 16.Qc2 b5 17.Nb2 Nb6 18.a4 Nxa4 19.Nxa4 bxa4 20.Rxa4 Bd7 21.Ra2 a5 22.Rfa1 0-0 23.bxa5 Ra6 Chess Informant Eco Chess Informant ECO C5 2006]

13...Nf8± White is slightly better. **14.Bg2** 0.25/19
[14.Kf2± 0.79/20]
14...Ng6 0.92/16
[14...h5= 0.25/19]
15.Be3 -0.17/20
[15.0-0± 0.92/16]
15...h5!= 16.h3 Bd7 17.Nb2 hxg4 18.hxg4 Rxh1+ 19.Bxh1 0-0-0 20.Qb1 Rh8 21.Bg2
[21.Ke2 seems wilder. Bd8 22.a4 Nce7 23.Qg1]
21...Nh4 0.01/17
[21...Kb8∓ -0.40/19]
22.Nxh4 Rxh4 23.Nd1 Qa4
[23...Rxg4?! 24.Bf3 Rg3 25.b5±]
24.Bf3
[24.Nf2 simplifies Bd8 25.Qd1 Ne7 26.Qxa4 Bxa4 27.Bf3]
24...Rh3 25.Ke2 a5 26.Nf2 Rh2 0.67/22
[26...Rg3= -0.01/19]
27.Kf1± And now Bd1 would win.
27...Na7 28.Bd1 Against Qb3 **28...Qc6 29.bxa5 bxa5 30.a4 Kc7** 1.34/21
[30...Qb7!± 0.36/19]
31.f5± Rh8



32.f6 0.58/20 **gxf6± 33.exf6 Bxf6 34.Bf4+ Kd8! 35.Qb8+** -0.01/19
[35.g5!± 0.50/22 e5 36.dxe5]
35...Nc8= 36.g5⇄ White has counterplay **36...Be7 37.Qe5 Rf8 38.Ng4 Qd6 39.Qe3 Qb6 40.Qe5 Nd6 41.Nf6** -0.80/22 Prevents Ne4
[41.Bf3= -0.24/21 keeps the balance.]
41...Qb2∓ 42.Rc1 Rh8! 43.Kg1 -8.85/19
[43.Rc2∓ -0.45/18 Qb1 *(43...Bxa4? 44.Rxb2 Rh1+ 45.Kg2+-)* 44.Rc1]



Repels Rh1+ **43...Rh4?** -0.01/21
[43...Rh2!-+ -8.85/19 (→ ...Qg2#) 44.Bxh2 Qxc1]
44.Ng8!= Ne4 Really sharp! **45.Rc2 Qb6** Against Qc7+
[45...Bxa4 46.Qc7+ Ke8 47.Qxe7#]
[45...Qb7!? 46.g6 f6 *(46...fxg6 47.Nxe7 Rxf4 48.Qxf4±; 46...Bxa4? 47.Rb2+-)* 47.Qc7+ Qxc7 48.Bxc7+ Kxc7 49.Nxe7 Be8= *(49...Bxa4? 50.g7+-)*]
46.Nxe7 -0.45/25
[46.g6= -0.04/25 f6 *(46...fxg6 47.Nxe7 Rxf4 48.Qxf4=; 46...Bxa4? 47.Nxe7* Remove Defender *Kxe7*

48.Bg5+ f6 49.Bxf6+ Nxf6 50.Rf2+- Discovered Attack*)* 47.Qc7+ Qxc7 48.Bxc7+ Kxc7 49.Nxe7]

46...Kxe7∓ 47.Bf3! Bxa4 48.Bxe4 Remove Defender **48...dxe4 49.Qf6+?** -2.08/26

[49.Rb2!= 0.01/20 and White stays safe. Rg4+ *(49...Qxb2 50.Qc5+ Ke8 51.Qc8+ Ke7 52.Qc5+ Kd7 53.Qc7+ Ke8 54.Qc8+ Ke7 55.Qc5+=)* 50.Kh1 Rh4+ *(50...Qxb2 51.Qc5+ Ke8 52.Qc8+ Ke7 53.Qc5+ Ke8 54.Qc8+ Ke7 55.Qc5+=)* 51.Kg1]

49...Ke8-+ And now ...e3! would win.

50.g6 Rg4+? -0.01/21

[Black should try 50...Qb1+-+ -2.45/25 51.Rc1 Rg4+ 52.Kh1 Qb7]

51.Rg2= Rxg2+ 52.Kxg2 fxg6 Endgame KQB-KQB. Black is 3 pawns up. **53.d5**

[53.Qxg6+ Kd7±]

53...e3 54.dxe6 Threatening mate with Bg5!.

[54.Qxg6+?! Kd7±]

54...e2? 12.30/26

[54...Qb7+= 0.14/18 55.Kg3 e2 56.Qxg6+ Ke7 57.Bg5+ Kd6 58.e7+ Kd5 59.Qf5+ *(59.e8B e1Q+ 60.Kg2 Qb2+; 59.e8Q Qb8+ 60.Kf3 Qxe8±)* 59...Kd6 60.Qf6+ *(60.Qxa5 e1Q+ 61.Kg4 Bd1+ 62.Kf5 Qe6+ 63.Kf4 Qf3#; 60.Qg6+ Kd5+-)* 60...Kd5 61.Qf3+ Ke5 62.Qxe2+ *(62.Qxb7 e1Q+ 63.Kh3 Qxc3+ 64.Kg2 Qc2+ 65.Kg3 Qc3+ 66.Kf2 Qc2+ 67.Kg1 Qd1+ 68.Kf2 Qc2+ 69.Kg3 Qd3+ 70.Qf3 Qxf3+ 71.Kxf3 Kd4=)* 62...Qe4 63.Bf4+ Kf5 64.Qh5+ Kf6 65.Bg5+ *(65.Qxa5 Qe1+ 66.Kh3 Bd7+ 67.Kg2 Bc6+ 68.Kh3 Qh1+ 69.Bh2 Qg2+* Deflection *70.Kh4 Qxh2+ 71.Kg4 Qg1+ 72.Kh4 Qf2+ 73.Kh5 Bf3+ 74.Kh6 Qh4+)* 65...Ke6 66.e8Q+ *(66.e8B Qd3+ 67.Kf2 Qf5+ 68.Qf3 Bxe8±)* 66...Bxe8 67.Qxe8+ Kf5]

55.Qf7++-

[55.Qxg6+ Kd8 56.Qg8+ *(56.e7+ Kxe7 57.Qxb6 e1Q=)* 56...Be8 57.Bg5+ Kc7 58.Qxe8 Qb7+ 59.Kf2 e1Q+ 60.Kxe1 Qb1+ 61.Kf2 Qf5+ 62.Ke3 Qxg5+ 63.Kf3 Qf5+ 64.Kg3 Qe5+ 65.Kg4 Qe2+ 66.Kg5 Qe5+ 67.Kg4 Qd5=]

55...Kd8 56.e7+

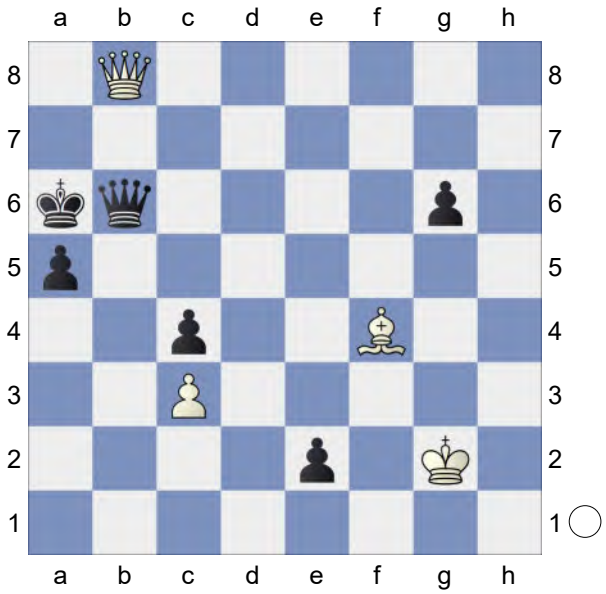
[56.Qxg6? Bc6+ *(56...e1R? 57.e7+* Discovered Attack *Kxe7 58.Qxb6+-; 56...e1N+ 57.Kf1=)* 57.Kh3 e1Q-+ *(57...e1R? 58.Qg8+ Be8 59.Bg5+ Kc7 60.Qxe8-+)*]

56...Kc8 57.e8Q+

[57.e8B? perishes. e1Q *(57...e1B 58.Kh3±)* 58.Qxc4+ Kd8 *(58...Bc6+? 59.Qxc6+ Qxc6+ 60.Bxc6-+)* 59.Bg5+ Kxe8-+]

[Weaker is 57.e8R+ Bxe8 58.Qxe8+ Kb7±]

57...Bxe8 58.Qxe8+ White is clearly winning. **58...Kb7 59.Qb8+ Ka6**

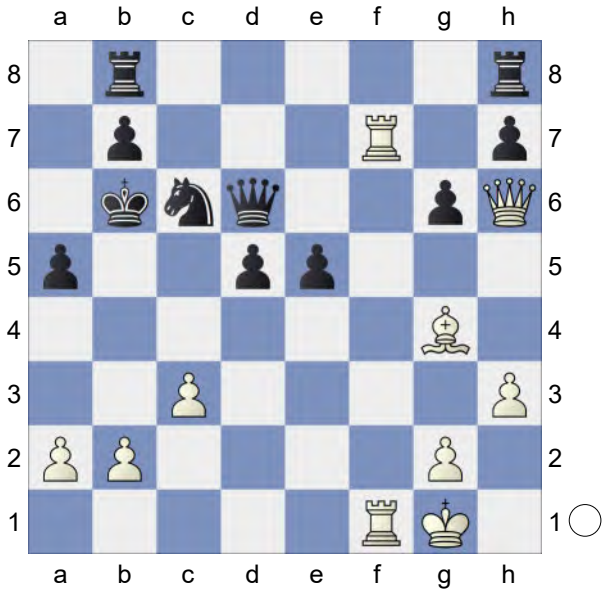


60.Qxb6+! Kxb6 KB-KP **61.Kf2 Kc6**

62.Kxe2 KB-K3P **62...Kd5 63.Kd2 a4 64.Kc2 a3 65.Bc1 a2 66.Kb2 Ke4 67.Kxa2 Kd3** Weighted Error Value: White=0.21 (precise) /Black=0.40 **68.Kb2** Sensor Board Error (Ke4/e5)? **0-1**

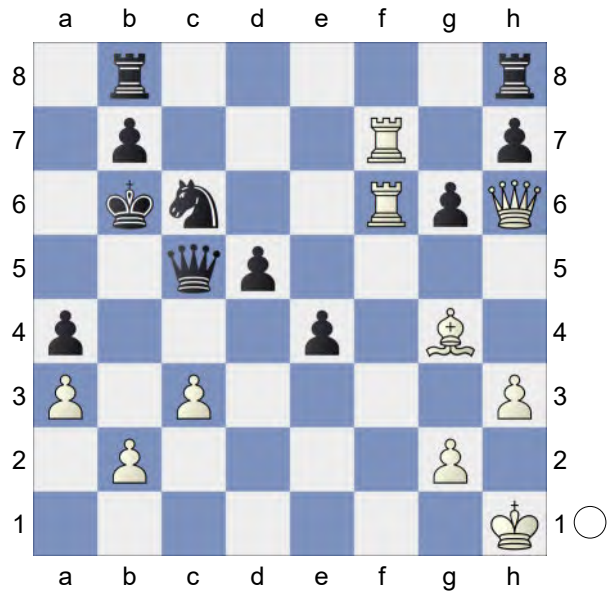
163 **C11**
□ **Morozevich,A.** **2678**
■ **Bareev,E.** **2729**
Amber Blindfold rapid (9) 25.03.2003
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 Dolmatov,Sergey; Dvoretzky, Mark: 'ChessCalisthenics: 'C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4''
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Qb6
[6...b5 7.Nf3 c4 8.h4 h6 9.Nf4 Nb6 10.Rh3 g6 11.Nh2 Be7 12.Ng4 h5 13.Nh2 Bxh4 14.g4 hxg4 15.Qxg4 Kd7 16.b3 Be7 17.a4 a5 18.Rb1 Rxh3 19.Qxh3 g5 20.Nh5 Ba6 21.Qf3 ½-½ Finkel,A (2485)-Mittelman, G (2440) ISR-chT Israel 2002 (4)]
7.f4 f6 8.Nf3 Be7N The position is equal.
[8...cxd4 9.cxd4 Bb4+ 10.Nc3 Nc6 11.a3 Bxc3+ 12.bxc3 Na5 13.a4 Qc7 14.Qc2 Nb6 15.exf6 gxf6 16.f5 Nbc4 17.fxe6 Bxe6 18.Bd3 0-0-0 19.0-0 Nd6 20.Bf4 Nac4 21.Rae1 Qd7 22.Nh4 Rdf8 23.a5 0-1 Ehlvest, J (2620)-Dolmatov,S (2615) 48/389 Clermont Ferrand 1989]
9.f5 cxd4! 10.Nexd4 -0.72/18
[10.Nfxd4= 0.01/18 fxe5 11.Nxe6]
10...Nxe5∓ 11.Nxe5 fxe5 12.Qh5+ Kd8 13.Nxe6+ Bxe6 14.fxe6 Qxe6 0.16/18
[14...Nc6∓ -0.92/19 and ...Rf8 would now be decisive 15.Qf3 d4]
15.Be2 -0.56/18
[15.g3= 0.16/18]
15...g6 0.26/20
[15...Nd7∓ -0.56/18]
16.Bg4= White has compensation.
16...Qd6 17.Qh3 Nc6 0.79/20
[17...h5± 0.38/18]
18.Bh6!± Bf8 1.53/20
[18...Kc7± 0.64/17]
19.0-0 White is more active. **19...Bxh6 20.Qxh6 Kc7 21.Rf7+ Kb6** 2.08/19
[21...Ne7± 1.42/19]
22.Raf1!+- a5 23.h3
[23.Rxh7 Qc5+ 24.Kh1 Qc4-+]
23...Rab8



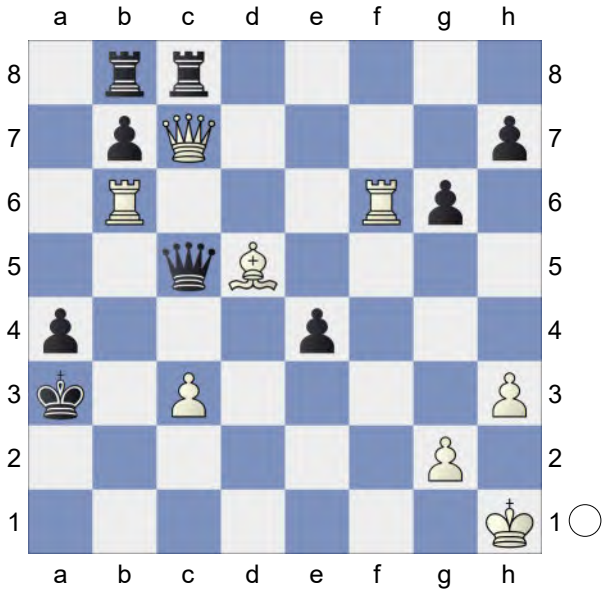
24.a3!
[24.Rxh7 Qc5+ *(24...Rxh7 25.Qxh7 Qc5+ 26.Kh1=)* 25.Kh2 Rxh7 26.Qxh7 Rf8=]
24...a4 2.28/21
[24...Rhd8± 1.51/17]
25.Kh1 1.07/19
[25.Rxh7 Qc5+ *(25...Rxh7 26.Qxh7 e4 27.Qg7±)* 26.Kh2 Rbf8=]
[25.R1f6+- 2.28/21 Qc5+ 26.Kh2]
25...Qc5 1.70/19
[25...d4± 1.07/19 keeps fighting.]

26.R1f6 1.01/18
[Better is 26.Bd1+- 1.70/19]
26...e4? 4.34/20
[26...d4± 1.01/18 is more resistant.]



27.Qf4! Hoping for Qc7+.
[27.Rxh7 Rbf8 *(27...Rxh7 28.Qxh7 Qe3 29.Qf7±)* 28.Qf4 *(28.Qxg6? Rxf6* Deflection *29.Qxf6 Rxh7-+; 28.Rxc6+? bxc6 29.Be2 Rxh7-+)* 28...Ka7 29.Rxh8 Rxh8±]
27...Ka5 28.Bd7 Rhd8 29.Qc7+
[29.Rxh7 Rf8±]
29...Kb5 4.44/20
[⌓29...Qb6 2.89/19 30.Qd6 Qb3 31.Rxh7 Kb6]
30.Rd6? -0.01/20
[Less strong is 30.Rxh7 Qb6 31.c4+ dxc4 32.Qe5+ Qc5 33.Qxe4 Rf8 34.Rxg6 *(34.Qxg6 Rxf6 35.Qxf6 Rf8±)* 34...Rf1+ 35.Kh2 Kb6+-]
[30.Re7+- 4.44/20]
30...Kc4= 31.Rff6? -6.19/22
[31.Rxh7? loses. Ne7-+]
[31.Re6= 0.01/22 Kb3 32.Rxh7]
31...Kb3?? 6.41/20
[31...Na7-+ -6.19/22 32.Qxc5+ Kxc5]

32.Bxc6+- Discovered Attack **32...Rdc8 33.Bxd5+ Kxb2 34.Rb6+ Kxa3**

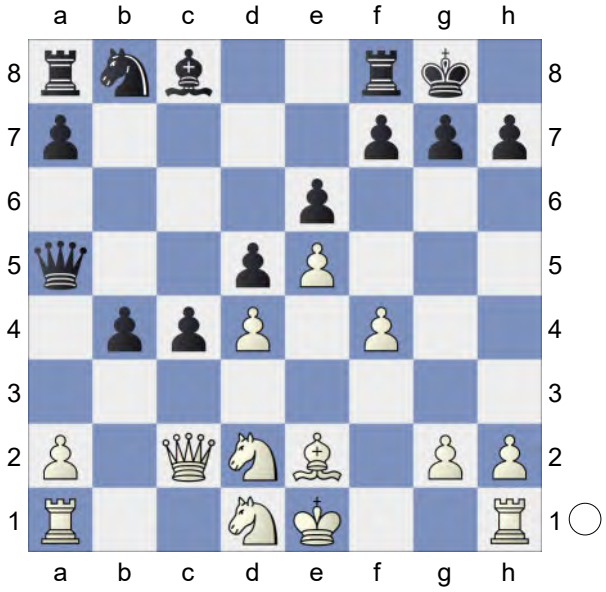


White used his chance. Weighted Error Value: White=0.58/Black=1.11
35.Rf1!
1-0

164 **C11**
□ **Navara,David** **2678**
■ **Chigaev,Maksim** **2628**
ChessKid Cup Div 3 L (2.2) 23.05.2023
[Kitty Kat]

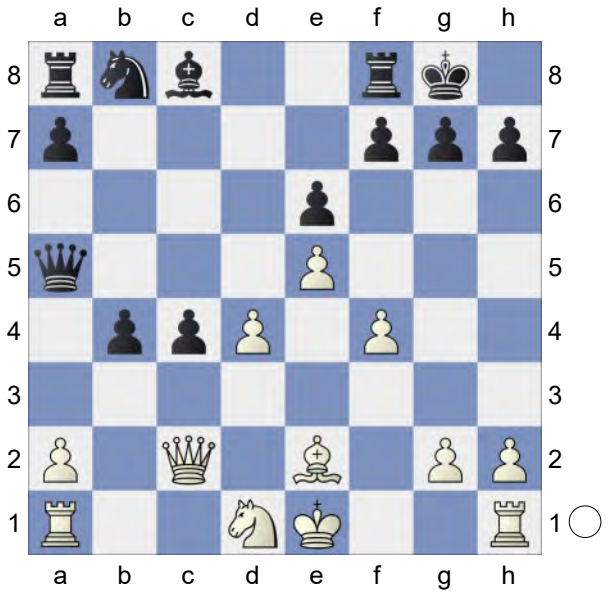
C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Qb6 8.Na4 Qa5+ 9.c3 b6 10.Bd2 c4 11.b4 Nxb4 12.cxb4 Bxb4** and ...b5 should not be overlooked **13.Qc2! Bxd2+** White is slightly better. **14.Nxd2 b5 15.Nc3 b4 16.Nd1** 0.15/17
[Better is 16.Nce4± 0.70/19]
16...0-0 17.Be2 White now steadily converts the win. **17...Nb8?** 2.60/19
[17...Qb6!= 0.15/18 18.Nf3 Nb8 19.Nf2 Nc6 20.Rd1 f6 21.0-0 Bd7

22.exf6 Rxf6 23.Ng4 Rxf4 24.Ng5 Rf5 25.Rxf5 exf5 26.Bf3 Qb5 27.Ne3 Ne7 28.Re1 h6 29.Nh3 b3 30.Qb1 Bc6 31.Nxf5 Nxf5 32.Qxf5 bxa2 1-0 Azumilover (2946)-Odessacoach (2673) Blitz 2022]



18.Nxc4N
[18.0-0 Nc6 19.Nf3 Qb6 20.Qd2 a5 21.Nf2 Bd7 22.Rfd1 Rfc8 23.Ng4 Ne7 24.Ne3 a4 25.Rdc1 Rab8 26.Rab1 Qa5 27.Bd1 Nc6 28.Qf2 b3 29.axb3 axb3 30.Ng4 Qd8 31.Qg3 Kh8 32.Ng5 Qf8 0-1 Badenhorst,C (1970)-Liu,Y (2261) Sant Boi de Llobregat op 5th 2024 (4)]
18...dxc4

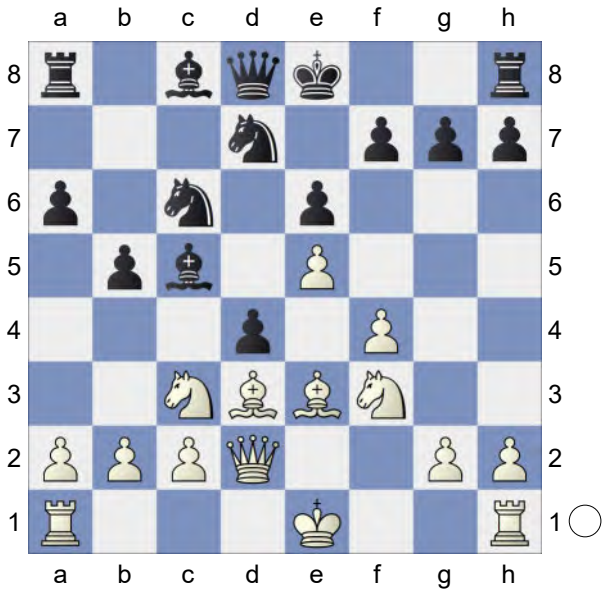
(Diagram)



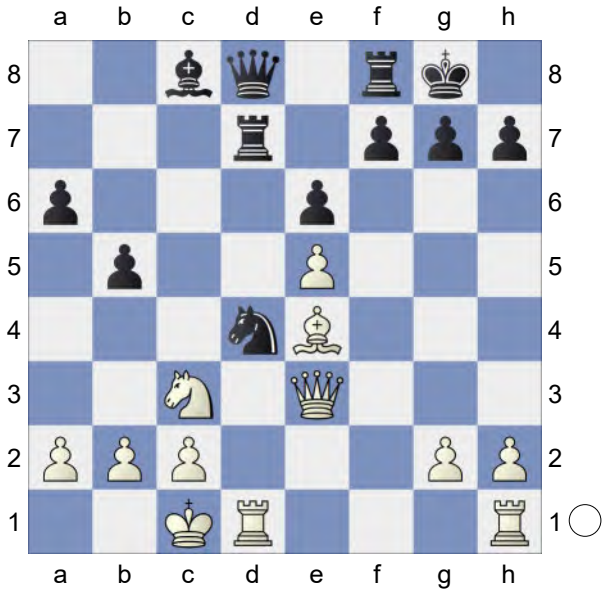
19.Bf3 Prevents Bb7 **19...Qb6?** 3.59/20
[Reject 19...b3+ 20.Qc3 Qxc3+ 21.Nxc3+-]
[19...Nc6 1.77/17 20.Bxc6 Rb8]
20.Bxa8 Qxd4 21.Rc1 Qxf4 22.Qxc4 Qxe5+ 23.Qe4 Qb5 24.Qc4? -0.01/18
[24.Qe3+- 3.99/20]
24...Qe5+!= 25.Qe4? -0.01/18
[25.Kf2+- 3.84/20]
25...Qb5 26.Ne3 Ba6 27.Nc4 h6? 5.04/19
[27...b3 2.73/19]
28.0-0+- White is clearly winning. **28...Nd7 29.Bc6 Qc5+ 30.Ne3 Qe7 31.Rfd1 Nf6 32.Qe5** aiming for Nf5. **32...Rc8 33.Nf5** Intending Be4 and mate. **33...Qc7 34.Qxc7 Rxc7 35.Nd6 Be2 36.Re1 Bh5 37.Bb5 Re7 38.Rc8+ Kh7 39.Rec1 Nd5 40.R1c5 Bg6 41.Re8 Rc7 42.Rxc7 Nxc7 43.Re7 Nxb5 44.Nxb5 a5** Weighted Error Value: White=0.65/Black=0.75
45.Ra7
1-0

165 **C11**
□ **mitsutszkisszucs** **2678**
■ **Sauron_21** **2702**
Blitz 18.01.2025
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 This was played in a rapid game between 2 strong GMs in 2013. White was rated 2782 and Black was rated 2784. **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.Qd2 b5 9.dxc5 Bxc5 10.Bd3 d4** 0.68/19
[10...Qb6= 0.20/17 11.Bf2 h6 *(11...Bb7 12.0-0 Rc8 13.Rae1 0-0 14.Bxh7+ Kxh7 15.Ng5+ Kg8 16.Qd3 Rfd8 17.Qh7+ Kf8 18.Qh5* French Advanced-8.Qd2 Bg7 9.0-0 0-0 Survey 2022 *)*]



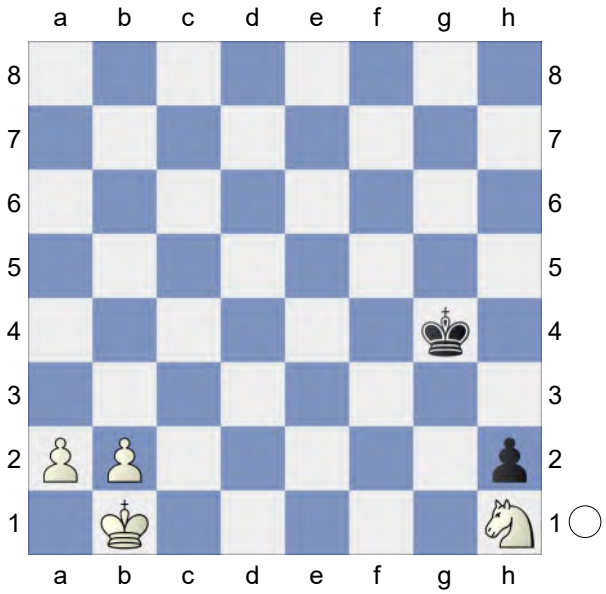
11.Nxd4!± Bxd4N
[11...Nxd4 12.Ne4 Qh4+ 13.Bf2 Qg4 *(13...Nxc2+ 14.Bxc2 Bxf2+ 15.Qxf2 Qxf2+ 16.Kxf2* French Theory-French*)* 14.Bxd4 Bxd4 15.Nd6+ Ke7 16.Be4 Bxb2 17.Rb1 Ba3 18.Bxa8 Bc5 19.Bf3 Qg6 20.Ne4 Rd8 21.Rd1 Bb6 22.Qb4+ French-French]
12.Bxd4 White is better. **12...Nxd4**
13.Be4! Discovered Attack **13...Nxe5?** 2.39/22 **14.fxe5?** 0.34/23
[Only move: 14.Bxa8+- 2.39/22 Nc4 15.Qf2]
14...Ra7!
[14...Qh4+? 15.Kf1+- *(15.g3 Qxe4+* Remove Defender *16.Nxe4 Nf3+ 17.Ke2 Nxd2=)*]
15.0-0-0 Rd7 Hoping for ...Nb3+!.
16.Qe3 0-0 0.81/20
[16...h6± 0.40/22 is superior.]



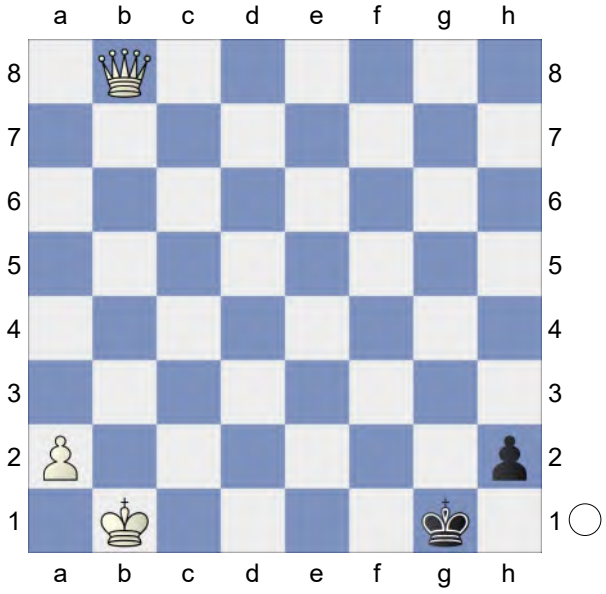
17.Kb1→ -0.09/22 White is up to no good. White is more active.
[17.b4!± 0.81/20]
17...Qb6? 5.95/19
[17...b4= -0.09/22 and Black is okay. 18.Na4 Nf5 19.Rxd7 Bxd7 *(19...Nxe3 20.Rxd8 Rxd8 21.Re1=)* 20.Bxf5 Bxa4]
18.Ne2+- Rfd8 19.c3 f5 8.01/17
[⌓19...b4 4.91/20 20.cxd4 f6 21.exf6 gxf6]
20.exf6
[20.cxd4 fxe4 21.Rd2 Rf8=]

[20.Rxd4 Rxd4 21.cxd4 *(21.Nxd4 fxe4 22.Qxe4 Bb7=)* 21...fxe4=]
[20.Nxd4 fxe4 21.Qxe4 b4∓]
20...e5 21.cxd4 exd4 22.Qh3 g6 23.Bd3 Qxf6 24.Rhf1 Qe5 25.Qg3 Qc5 7.25/18 Dodges Rf8+
[⌓25...Qxg3 4.95/18 26.Nxg3 Kg7]
26.Nf4 Rd6 27.h4 7.34/17
[⌓27.Nxg6 14.79/22 hxg6 28.Bxg6]
27...Bf5 28.h5 Bxd3+ 29.Qxd3 g5 30.Nh3 h6 31.Nf2 Re6 32.Ne4 Qc6 33.Nd2 Qxg2 34.Nf3 3.80/19
[⌓34.Qf5 7.91/21 Qc6 35.Rc1]
34...Qg4 9.16/22
[34...Qe2 3.80/19 35.Qb3 *(35.Nxd4 Qxd3+ 36.Rxd3 Red6±)* 35...Qc4 36.Qxc4 bxc4 37.Rxd4 *(37.Nxd4 Red6=)* 37...Rf8]
35.Rde1 Rxe1+ 36.Rxe1 Qxh5 37.Ne5? 3.70/21
[37.Re7 10.16/19 Kf8 38.Qh7 Qg6+ 39.Qxg6 Kxe7 40.Nxd4 Decoy *(40.Qxa6 Rd6+-)* 40...Rxd4 41.Qg7+ *(41.Qxa6 Rh4+-; 41.Qxh6 Rd6+-)* 41...Ke6 42.Qxd4]
37...Qe8 38.Qf5 Repels Qe6
[38.Qh3 Rd6 39.Qh1 *(39.Nd3 Qd7±)* 39...Re6+-]
38...Rd6? 7.29/23
[38...d3 3.77/20]
39.Rf1? -0.41/20
[39.Rc1+- 7.29/23 White wants to mate with Rc7. Qe7 40.Ng6]
39...Kg7? 4.78/22
[39...Rd5!∓ -0.41/20 40.Qg6+ *(40.Re1 d3∓)* 40...Qxg6+ 41.Nxg6 Kg7]
40.Nd3 2.57/19
[⌓40.Qe4 4.78/22]
40...Qe7 41.Re1 2.04/21
[⌓41.Qc5 3.54/21]
41...Qf7? 4.15/21
[41...Qd7 2.04/21 42.Qe4 Rf6]
42.Qe5+ Qf6 4.30/22
[⌓42...Rf6 2.78/22 43.Qxd4 Kh7]
43.Qc5 1.83/18
[⌓43.Qe8 4.30/22 Re7+ is the strong threat. Qf8 44.Qe4 *(44.Re7+ Kg8=)*]
43...Qg6? #15/29
[43...Re6+- 1.83/18]
44.Re7+? -0.01/22
[44.Qc7+ #15/29 Qf7 45.Qxd6 g4 46.Re7 *(46.Qxd4+ Kh7+-)* 46...Qxe7 47.Qxe7+ Kg6 48.Qe5 Kf7 49.Qd6 *(49.Qxd4 Ke7 50.Qe5+ Kd7 51.Nc5+ Kc6 52.b4 h5 53.Qe6+* Skewer *Kc7 54.Qd7+ Kb8 55.Qb7#)* 49...h5 50.Ne5+ *(50.Qxa6 Ke7 51.Nf4 Kf8 52.Qd6+ Kf7 53.Nd3 h4 54.Ne5+ Kg8 55.Qg6+ Kh8 56.Nf7#)* 50...Ke8 51.Qe6+ Kf8 52.Qf7#]
44...Kf6? #1/6
[44...Kf8= -0.01/22 45.Re1 *(45.Re4 Qxe4 46.Qxd6+ Kg7=)* 45...Qf6 *(45...Qxd3+? 46.Ka1+-)*]
45.Qxd6+ Kf5 46.Qxg6+ 13.13/27
[⌓46.Qd7+ #2/6 Kf6 47.Qe6#]
46...Kxg6 47.Re6+ Kh5 48.Rxa6 Kg4 49.Rb6 30.62/25
[⌓49.Rxh6 #19/28 Kf5 50.Kc2 g4 51.Rh5+ Kf6 52.Rxb5 g3 53.Re5 g2 54.Re1]
49...h5 50.Rxb5 h4 51.Rd5 15.10/23
[⌓51.a4 #18/28 h3 52.Nf2+ Deflection Kf3 53.Rf5+ *(53.Nxh3 g4+-)* 53...Ke2 54.a5 *(54.Nxh3 g4+-)* 54...g4 55.a6 *(55.Nxg4 h2+-)* 55...g3 56.Nxh3]
51...Kh5 52.Rxd4 h3 53.Nf2 g4 54.Nh1 h2 55.Rxg4 Kxg4

(Diagram)



KN-KP **56.b4?** 0.27/24
[56.a4! #20/29 mates Kf3 57.a5 Kg2 58.a6 Kxh1 59.a7 Kg1 60.a8Q *(60.a8B Kf2+-)* 60...h1Q 61.Qxh1+ Kxh1 62.b4]
56...Kh3 57.b5 Kg2 58.b6 Kg1? #17/28
[58...Kxh1± 0.31/17 59.b7 Kg2]
59.b7 White mates. **59...Kxh1 60.b8Q Kg1**



Weighted Error Value: White=0.61/ Black=1.21 **61.Qxh2+!!**
1-0

166 **C11**
□ **Van Foreest,Jorden** **2677**
■ **Fridman,D.** **2571**
European Rapid 2024 (5.2) 07.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Qb6 9.Qd2 Qxb2 10.Rb1 Qa3 11.Bb5! Nxd4 12.Bxd4 a6! 13.Rb3** -0.01/19
[13.Bxd7+± 0.45/23 Bxd7 14.Rb3]
13...Qe7= The position is equal. **14.Ba4 Qh4+**
[14...b5 15.Bxb5 axb5 16.Nxb5 Qd8 17.Qc3 Qa5 18.Nc7+ Kd8 19.Nxa8 Qxa8 20.0-0 Qa4 21.Kh1 Be7 22.Rfb1 f6 23.exf6 gxf6 24.Rb6 Qxa2 25.Re1 Qc4 26.Rbxe6 Bb4 27.Bxf6+ Nxf6 28.Qxf6+ Kc7 29.Re7+ 1-0 Topalov,V (2775)-Nakamura,H (2774) Amber-rapid 20th 2011 (9)]
15.g3N New and interesting. Theoretisch interessant.
[15.Bf2 Qd8 16.Bb6 Qh4+ 17.g3 Qg4 *(17...Qh3 18.Rf1 Qf5 19.g4 Qxg4 20.f5 Be7 21.f6 gxf6 22.Rf4* The French Steinitz-Poisoned Pawn Variation 14... ♕d8 2013 *)* 18.Ne4! dxe4? 4.48/22 *(18...Be7!=* -0.01/17 *19.Nc5 Bxc5 20.Bxc5 b5 21.Ba3 Nxe5 22.fxe5 Qe4+ 23.Kf2 Qxh1 24.Qb4 Qxh2+ 25.Kf1 Qh1+ 26.Kf2 Qh2+* #3 *5) Steinitz - 11.Bb5-14.Ba4)* 19.Rc3!+- Threatening mate with Rxc8+!. Bb4 20.Rxc8+! Rxc8 21.Bxd7+ 1-0 Aronian,L (2729)-Durarbayli,V (2626) Julius Baer GenCup Pl/In rapid 2024 (8)]
15...Qh3 16.Bb5? -3.25/20 **axb5-+ 17.Nxb5 Ra4 18.Rc3 Bb4**

[18...Rc4 19.Nc7+ Ke7 20.Rxc4 dxc4 21.Nb5-+]

19.Rxc8+ Ke7 20.Bc3 Bxc3 -0.75/22

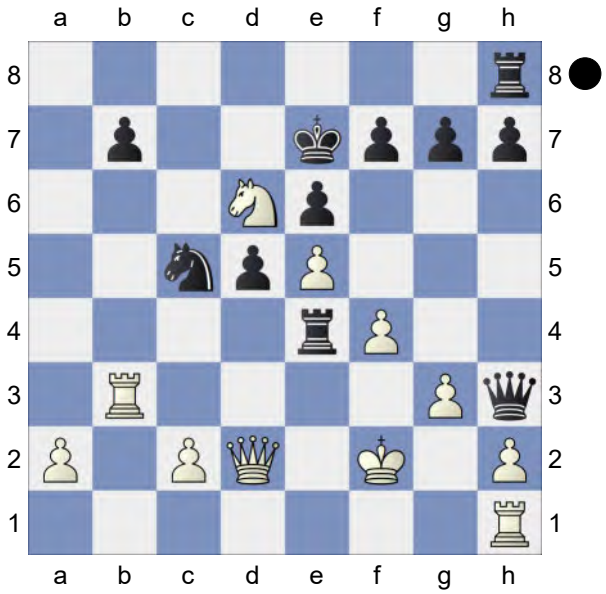
[20...Rxc8-+ -3.48/20 is more deadly. 21.Bxb4+ Kd8]

21.Rxc3∓ Rb4 0.01/17

[21...Rxa2 22.Rc7 Ra6 *(22...Ra1+? 23.Kf2+-)* 23.Qb4+ *(23.Rxb7 Rc8∓)* 23...Kd8 24.Qc3± *(24.Rxb7? Qg2-+)*]

[21...Rd8∓ -0.87/20 White must now prevent ...b6!. 22.Rc7 Kf8]

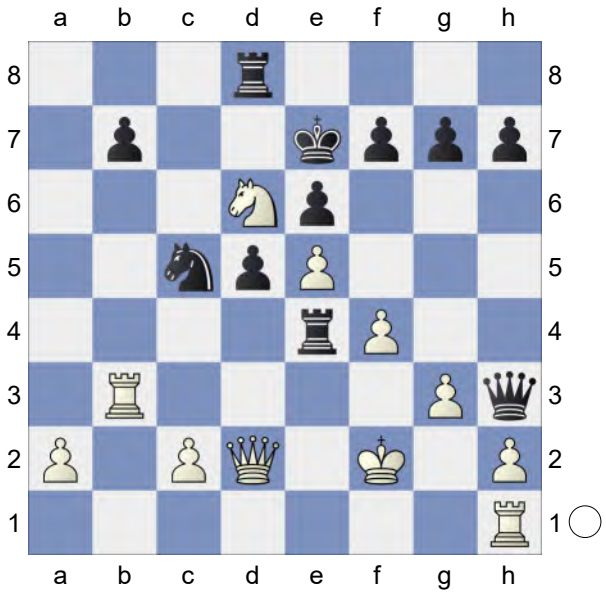
22.Rb3= Re4+ 23.Kf2 Nc5 24.Nd6



Discovered Attack, Double Attack

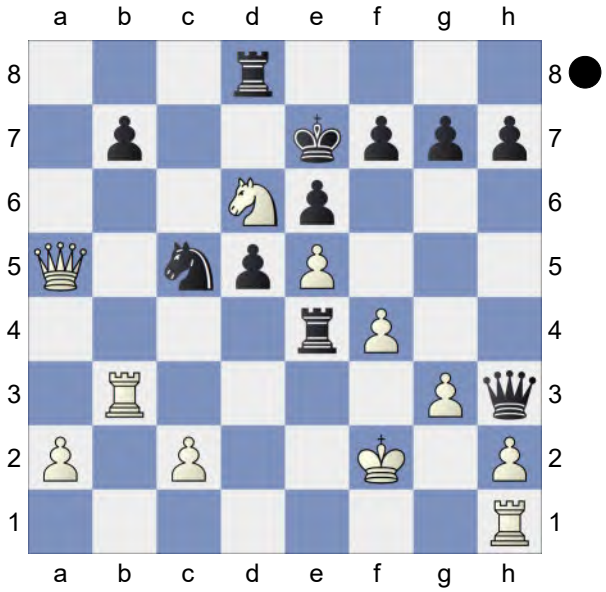
24...Rd8!

(Diagram)



25.Qa5!

[25.Rb5 Rc4]



The board is on fire. **25...Re2+!** Decoy

[25...Nxb3 26.axb3]

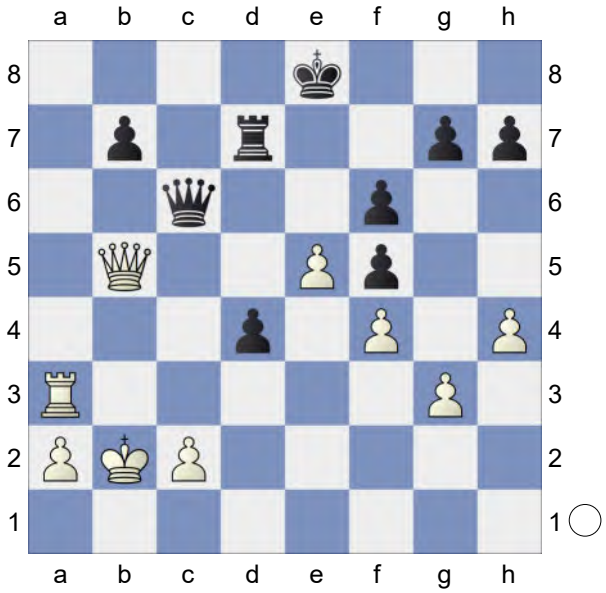
26.Kxe2 Qg2+ 27.Ke3 Qxh1

[27...d4+ 28.Kxd4 Nxb3+ *(28...Qxh1? 29.Qxc5 f6 30.Kc3+-)* 29.axb3]

28.Nf5+

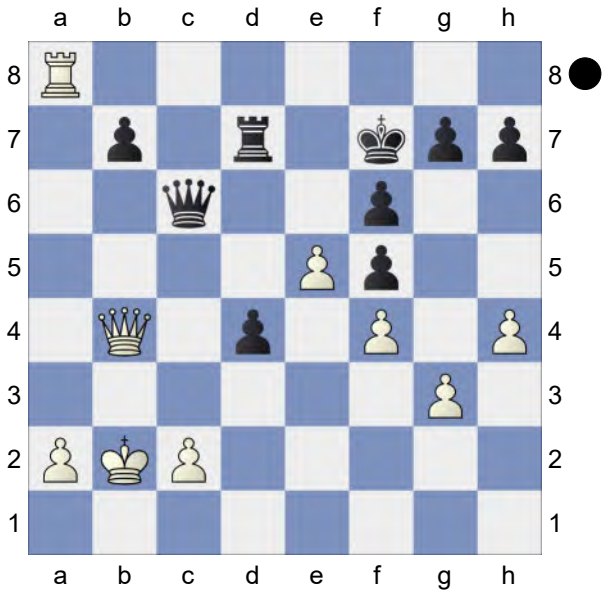
[28.Qxc5? Qg1+ *(28...Qxh2 29.Nf5+* Discovered Attack (Double Check), Double Attack *Kd7 30.Rxb7+*

Ke8 31.Nxg7#) 29.Kf3 Qxc5-+]
28...exf5 29.Qxc5+ Endgame KQR-KQR **29...Ke8 30.Kd2 d4** 0.90/21
[30...Qxh2+= 0.18/23 31.Kc1 d4]
31.Qb5+!± Rd7 32.h4 Qg2+ 1.47/21
[⌓32...Ke7 0.91/22]
33.Kc1 Qe4 1.96/21
[33...Kd8± 1.24/21 was worth a try.]
34.Ra3 0.72/23
[34.Kb2+- 1.96/21 and White stays clearly on top.]
34...f6 35.Kb2 0.40/22
[White should try 35.Qc4± 0.92/23 aiming for Qg8+. Qh1+ 36.Kb2]
35...Qc6 1.46/22
[35...Ke7!± 0.40/22]



36.Ra8+ 0.01/21
[36.Qxc6!± 1.46/22 bxc6 37.e6]
36...Kf7⇄ Black has counterplay **37.Qb4** -1.36/21
[37.Qxc6= 0.08/23 remains equal. bxc6 38.exf6 Kxf6 39.h5]

(Diagram)



37...Rc7 -0.01/24
[37...Kg6!∓ -1.36/21 38.Qd2 Rd5]
38.Qb3+
[38.Qxd4? Qxc2+ 39.Ka3 Rc3+-+]
38...Kg6 39.Rd8! Qc3+ 40.Qxc3 dxc3+ KR-KR **41.Kb3 fxe5 42.fxe5 Re7 43.Rd5 Kh5 44.e6 Kg4 45.Rd7 Rxe6 46.Rxg7+ Rg6 47.Rxh7 Kxg3 48.h5 Rb6+ 49.Kxc3 f4 50.h6 Kf3 51.a4 Re6 52.a5** 0.01/26
[52.Kd3!± 0.42/21 might be stronger.]
52...Ke3 53.Rxb7 Rc6+ 54.Kb4 Rxh6 55.Re7+ Kd4 56.Rf7 Ke5 5.49/22
[56...Ke3= 0.14/21]
57.c4+- White is clearly winning.
57...Rh1 58.a6 Ra1 59.Kb5 Kd6 60.c5+
[Not 60.Rxf4 Rb1+ 61.Ka5 Ra1+ 62.Kb4 Kc7±]
60...Kd5 What a fight! Weighted Error Value: White=0.29 (precise) /Black=0.48
61.Rxf4
1-0

167 **C11**
□ **Niemann,Hans Moke** **2676**
■ **Kramnik,Vladimir** **2753**
Titled Tue 5th Mar Late blitz (7) 05.03.24
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 RR: 'Inf 71/(294)' Nijboer,F: 'Inf 57/291' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Bc5 9.Qd2 Bxd4 10.Bxd4 Nxd4 11.Qxd4 Qb6 12.Qxb6 Nxb6 13.Bd3**

[13.a4 Ke7 *(13...Bd7 14.a5 Nc8 15.Bd3 Ne7 16.0-0 ½-½* Kramnik,V (2480)-Sakaev,K (2455) CLA Sao Paulo 1991 (8)*)* 14.a5 Nd7 15.Kd2 g5 16.g3 gxf4 17.gxf4 f6 18.Rg1 fxe5 19.Bh3 exf4 20.Rae1 Nf8 21.Nxd5+ Kd6 22.Nxf4 e5 23.Rg3 Bxh3 24.Rd3+ Kc6 25.Rc3+ Kd6 26.Nxh3 Rg8 27.Rd3+ Ke6 1-0 Kasparov,G (2795)-Bareev,E (2665) Novgorod 1997 (3)]

[13.0-0-0 Bd7 14.b3 Nc8 15.h4 h5 16.Rh3 Ne7 17.Nb5 Bxb5 18.Bxb5+ Kd8 19.a4 Rc8 20.Kd2 g6 21.a5 a6 22.Be2 Rc7 23.b4 Kc8 Situru,N-A 14/07 (ch) India 1988]

13...Bd7N

[13...Ke7 14.0-0-0 Bd7 15.Rhf1 *(15.Rhe1 g5 16.fxg5 Rhg8 17.h4 h6 18.g4 hxg5 19.h5* C 11/25 2000 *)* 15...Bc6 16.Ne2 f6 17.exf6+ gxf6 18.Nd4 Kd6 19.Rde1 Rae8 20.g4 Rhg8 21.h3 h6 22.Rf3 Bd7 23.Bb5 Re7 24.Bxd7 Kxd7 25.Rfe3 Rge8 26.b3 a6 27.Kb2 Kd6 28.Rd1 1-0 Agamaliev,D (2485)-Kaussen,O (2625) Jugoslavija 19/166 1975 Kc7 29.a4 Nc8 30.f5 exf5 31.Rc3+ Kb8 32.Nxf5 Rh7 33.Rxd5 h5 34.Rcd3 hxg4 35.hxg4 Rh2 36.Rd8 Rhe2 37.R3d7 Rxd8 38.Rxd8 Kc7 39.Rf8 1-0 Nijboer,F (2485)-Gurevich,M (2625) 57/291 Groningen 1992]

14.a4 Rc8 0.80/22

[14...a5= 0.25/19]

15.Nb5 0.33/20

[15.a5± 0.80/22 Nc4 16.Nd1]

15...Ke7± 16.b3

[16.Nxa7 Ra8 17.Nb5 Nxa4∓]

16...a5 17.Nd4 Bc6 18.Kd2 Nd7 19.Rae1 Nc5 20.f5 Bd7 21.g4 h5 22.h3 Ne4+ 23.Bxe4 0.12/19

[23.Ke3!± 0.56/19 might be stronger.]

23...dxe4= 24.Ke3

[24.Rxe4 hxg4 25.Rxg4 exf5 26.Rxg7 Rc5=]

24...Rc3+ 25.Kf4 Bc6 0.76/23

[25...hxg4 26.hxg4 *(26.Kxe4? gxh3 27.Ref1 h2-+)* 26...Rch3 27.Rxh3 Rxh3 28.Kxe4∓ *(28.Rxe4 Rh1±)*]

[25...e3= 0.01/23]

26.g5± Rd8? 3.42/25

[26...exf5± 0.57/24 27.Re3 *(27.Nxf5+ Kd7±)* 27...Rxe3 28.Nxf5+ Ke6 29.Nd4+ Kd5 30.Kxe3 Bd7 *(30...Kxe5? 31.Rf1±)*]

27.f6+

[27.Nxc6+ bxc6 28.f6+ *(28.Kxe4 exf5+ 29.Kf4 Rd4+)* 28...Kf8∓]

27...Kf8 28.Nxc6 0.35/22

[28.Re3+- 3.51/26]

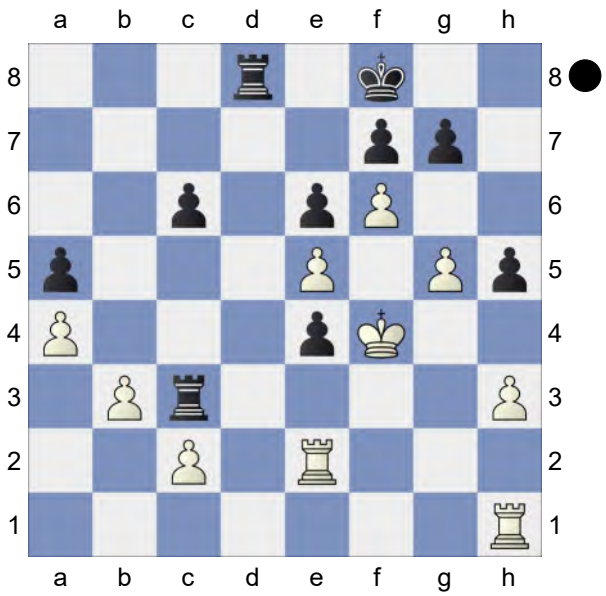
28...bxc6+- Endgame KRR-KRR **29.Re2** -1.08/25

[29.Kxe4 Rd5∓]

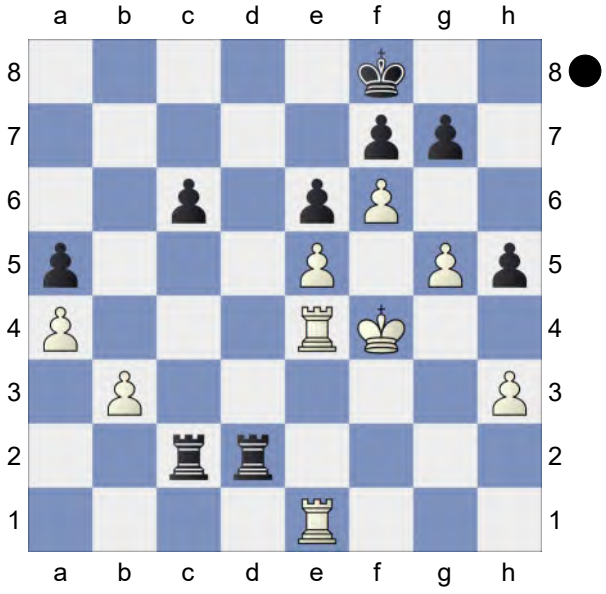
[29.Rxe4 Rd2 30.Re3 Rcxc2∓ *(30...Rdxc2? 31.Rd1+-)*]

[29.Rd1± 0.63/27 stays ahead. Rd5 30.Kxe4]

(Diagram)

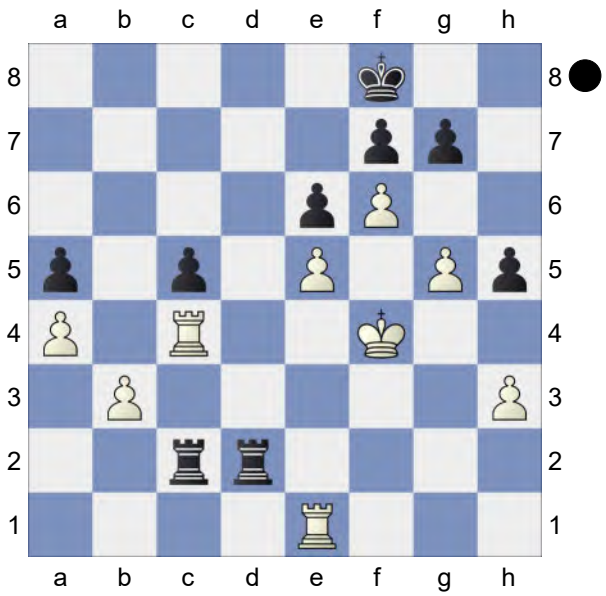


29...e3 0.01/25 **30.Rhe1** -0.43/23
[30.h4= 0.01/25]
30...Rd2 31.Rxe3 Rcxc2
[31...Rdxc2?! 32.Rd1 gxf6 33.exf6±]
32.Re4 -1.05/23
[32.Ke4∓ -0.33/23]



32...c5!∓ 33.Rc4 -1.11/27
[White should play 33.R1e3!∓ -0.55/25]

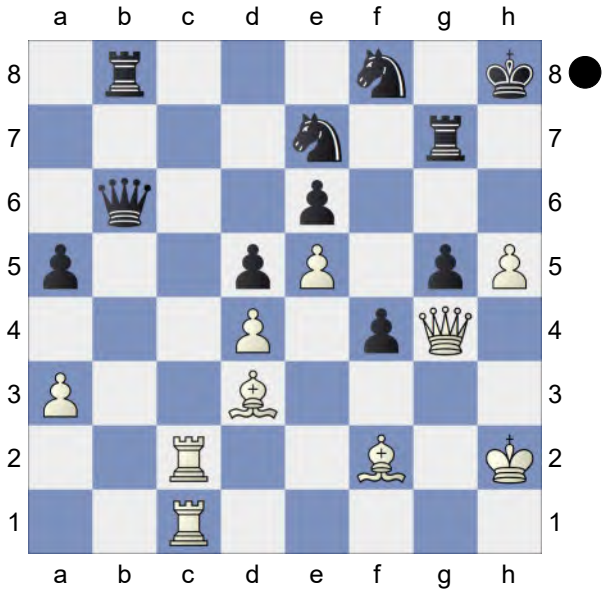
(Diagram)



33...Rxc4+! 34.bxc4 KR-KR **34...Rd4+ 35.Ke3** -1.93/28
[35.Re4∓ -0.90/25 Rd2 36.Re3]
35...gxf6? -0.27/25
[Don't take 35...Rxc4 36.Rd1 gxf6 *(36...Rxa4 37.Rd8#)* 37.gxf6∓]
[35...Kg8-+ -1.93/28 36.Rb1 *(36.Rc1? Rh4∓)* 36...Rxc4]
36.exf6? -5.48/26
[36.gxf6= -0.27/25 and White stays safe. Rxc4 37.Rb1]
36...Kg8 37.Rb1 Rxc4 38.Rb5 Rxa4 39.Rxc5 Kh7 40.Rc8 Kg6 41.Rg8+ Kf5 42.Rg7 h4 43.Kd3 Rb4 44.Rxf7 Rg7 would now be deadly. **44...Kxg5 45.Ra7 Kxf6 46.Rxa5 Rb3+** Skewer **47.Ke4 Rxh3 48.Kf4 Rh1 49.Kg4 e5?** -0.01/22
[49...Rg1+-+ -5.39/24 50.Kxh4 e5]
50.Ra6+= Ke7 51.Kf5 Re1 52.Rh6 e4 53.Kf4 e3
[53...Kd7 simplifies 54.Rxh4 Ke6 55.Rh5 Kd6]
54.Kf3 e2 55.Rxh4 Rf1+ 56.Kxe2 Rf6 57.Re4+ Re6 58.Rxe6+ What a bad dream for Black. Weighted Error Value: White=0.48/Black=0.52 **58...Kxe6 ½-½**

168 **C11**
□ **Novy,Martin** **2676**
■ **Hess,O..** **2442**
FIDE WCh KO, LBA (2.4) 2023
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 Be7 8.Nf3 0-0 9.g3** -0.27/21
[9.Be3 0.09/21 might be stronger.]
9...b5= 10.a3 a5 11.Bh3
[11.Bg2 a4 12.dxc5 Nxc5 13.Ned4 Na5 14.0-0 Bd7 15.Qe2 Nc4 16.Be3 Qc7 17.Rad1 Ne4 18.Rde1 Rae8 19.Kh1 f6 20.exf6 Bxf6 21.Bc1 h6 22.Nc2 Be7 23.Ne3 Bd6 24.Nh4 Rf7 25.Ng4 e5 ½-½ Lauron, P (2302)-10.dc5 ♗c5 11. ♗d2 (2631) World U20-ch22 Belfort 1983 (4)]
11...b4N
[11...a4]
12.0-0 -0.46/24
[12.axb4= -0.06/22 cxb4 13.0-0]
12...bxc3∓ 13.bxc3 Ba6 0.40/19
[13...Nb6∓ -0.51/23]
14.Rf2 -0.32/21
[Better is 14.f5± 0.40/19]
14...g6 0.19/19
[14...Qb6!∓ -0.32/21]
15.g4 -0.48/19
[15.f5= 0.19/19 exf5 16.Bh6]
15...f5 0.16/23
[Black should play 15...Qb6∓ -0.48/19]
16.gxf5= Bxe2 17.Rxe2 Hoping for fxg6. **17...gxf5 18.Ng5** -0.25/20
[18.Bf1± 0.31/23]
18...Bxg5 19.fxg5 Rf7 20.Bf1 cxd4 -0.15/22
[20...Rb8∓ -0.64/21]
21.cxd4 Qb6 0.21/22
[21...Rb8 -0.21/23 is more appropriate.]
22.Be3 Rb8 23.Rc1 f4 24.Bf2 Rg7 0.66/22
[Black should try 24...Ne7= 0.06/23]
25.h4± h6 26.Rec2 0.25/19
[26.g6± 0.69/22 was preferrable.]
26...Ne7= 27.Qg4 aiming for Rc6!
27...hxg5? 1.64/23
[27...Nf8!= 0.00/21 and Black has nothing to worry.]
28.h5!+-
[28.hxg5 Nf8=]
28...Nf8 29.Bd3 0.00/21 Dodges Nf5
[29.h6+- 1.83/28 Rf7 30.Qxg5+ Kh8 31.Bd3]
29...Kh8= 30.Kh2 -0.49/23
[30.h6= 0.00/21 Rg8 31.Qh5]

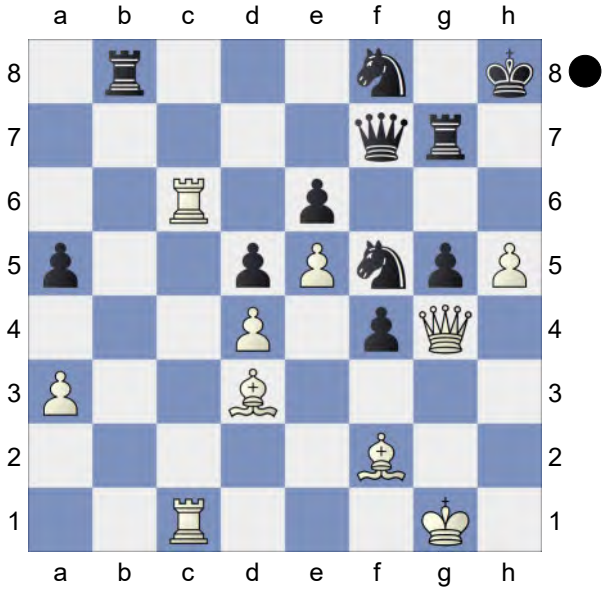


30...Nf5 0.31/22 **31.Rc6?** -2.33/24
[31.Bxf5± 0.31/22 was the only good move. exf5 32.Qxf5]
31...Nh6 Excellent horsemanship.
32.Qe2 Qd8 ...g4 would now be deadly.
33.Qf3 Qe8 -1.93/18
[⌓33...Rf7 -3.27/19 White must now prevent ...g4. 34.Rg1 Rb3]
34.Kg1-+ Qf7 -2.91/21
[⌓34...Qe7 -2.06/20 35.R6c3 Qf7]
35.Qd1 Nf5? -0.85/20

[35...f3-+ -4.00/22 36.Rc8 Rxc8 37.Rxc8 Qf4]

36.Qg4 -3.18/26

[36.Rc7∓ -0.85/20 Qe8 *(36...Qxc7 37.Rxc7 Rxc7 38.Bxf5=)* 37.a4]



36...Nh6! 37.Qd1 Nf5? -0.27/21

[37...f3-+ -3.53/23 38.Rc8 Rxc8 39.Rxc8 Qf4]

38.Qg4= Nh6? -3.91/20

[38...Re8∓ -0.32/24 39.h6 Rg6 *(39...Nxh6 40.Qh3=)*]

39.Qd1!-+ Nf5? -0.43/23

[39...f3-+ -3.91/20 40.Rc8 Rxc8 41.Rxc8 Qf4]

40.Qg4! Weighted Error Value: White=0.46/Black=0.68

½-½

169 **C11**

□ **Maghsoodloo,Parham** **2676**

■ **Edouard,Romain** **2645**

Capechecs Online Trophy A (10)

[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Be7 8.Qd2 0-0 9.a3 a6**

[9...b6 10.Bd3 Bb7 11.h4 f5 12.exf6 Nxf6 13.0-0-0 c4 14.Be2 b5 15.Ng5 Qd7 16.Nxb5 Rab8 17.Rde1 Bc8 18.Nc3 Qb7 19.Nd1 Bxa3 20.c3 h6 21.Qc2 Na5 22.Kb1 hxg5 23.hxg5 Ne4 24.Bf3 ½-½ Matinian,N (2415)-Acosta,P (2051) Titled Tuesday intern op 14th Jan Early blitz 2025 (2)]

10.dxc5N

[10.h4 f6 11.exf6 Nxf6 12.dxc5 Qa5 13.Ne2 Qc7 14.Qd3 Ne4 15.Ng5 Bxg5 16.hxg5 g6 17.0-0-0 Ne7 18.Nc3 Rxf4 19.Kb1 Nf2 20.Bxf2 Rxf2 21.g4 Qxc5 22.Qh3 Rf7 23.Ne4 Qf2 24.Nxf2 1-0 Shirliyev,A (2207)-Anirudh,R (1888) Bhubaneswar op-A 15th 2024 (5)]

[10.Be2 b5 11.0-0 Qb6 12.b4 cxb4 13.axb4 Bxb4 14.Qd3 Bxc3 15.Qxc3 b4 16.Qe1 f5 17.Qh4 Qd8 18.Qh3 Nb6 19.Kh1 Nc4 20.Bf2 Ne7 21.Rg1 Ng6 22.Qg3 Bd7 ½-½ Bartel,M (2641)-Rausis,I (2589) Cesko 131/105 2016]

10...Bxc5 0.73/20

[10...Nxc5= 0.10/20 11.h4 b5]

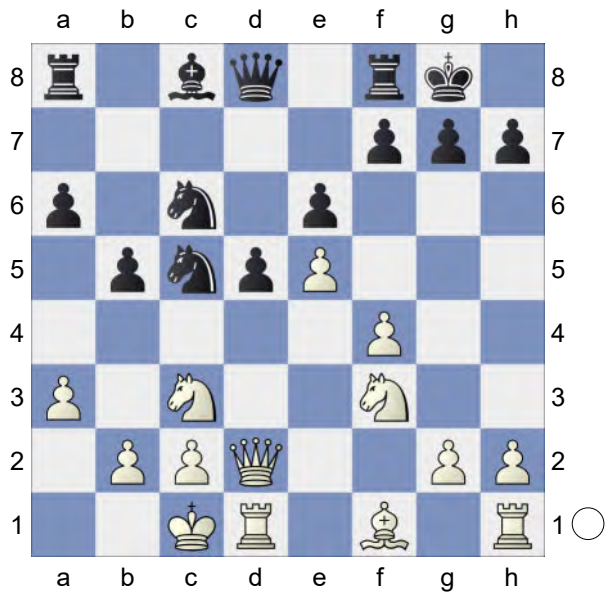
11.Bxc5± White is better. **11...Nxc5**

12.0-0-0 0.01/19

[White should play 12.b4± 0.72/18 Nd7 13.Bd3]

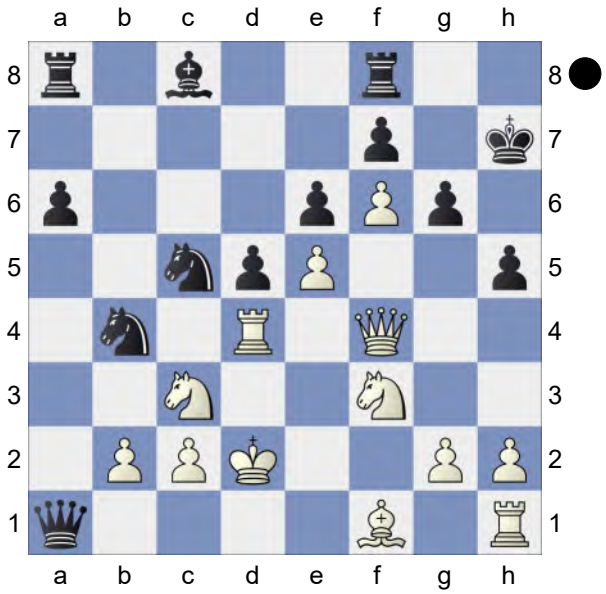
12...b5=

(Diagram)

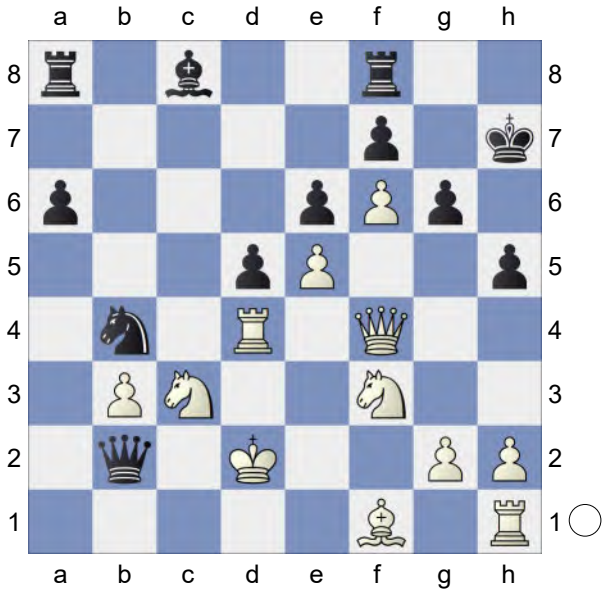


13.f5! b4? 2.86/22
[13...exf5= -0.01/19 14.Nxd5 Be6]
[13...Qc7 14.Qg5]
14.axb4+- Nxb4 15.f6! h6 4.25/23 Prevents Qg5.
[⌓15...Nd7 2.83/21 16.Na4 gxf6]
16.Qf4 Qa5 17.Qg4? -0.01/20
[17.Kb1 Ne4 18.Nxe4 Qa2+ 19.Kc1 dxe4 20.Qxe4 Rb8 21.fxg7 Re8∓ *(21...Qa1+ 22.Kd2=)*]
[17.Rd4!+- 2.94/21]
17...g6=
[17...Qa1+? 18.Kd2+-]
18.Qh4! Active counter play!
[18.Kb1 Rb8 19.Nd4 Bd7∓]
18...h5⇄ Black has counterplay
[18...Qa1+? 19.Kd2+-]
19.Qf4
[19.Kb1 Ne4 20.Qe1 Bb7∓]
19...Kh7
[19...Qa1+ 20.Kd2+-]
20.Ng5+ Kg8 21.Nf3 Kh7 Repels Qh6+
[21...Qa1+ 22.Kd2 Qxb2 23.Qh6 Qxc2+ 24.Ke3 d4+ *(24...Qxc3+ 25.Bd3 Nc2+ 26.Ke2)* 25.Rxd4 Qc1+ *(25...Qxc3+ 26.Ke2)* 26.Nd2 Qe1+ *(26...Qxc3+ 27.Ke2)* 27.Kf3]

22.Rd4 Qa1+ 23.Kd2

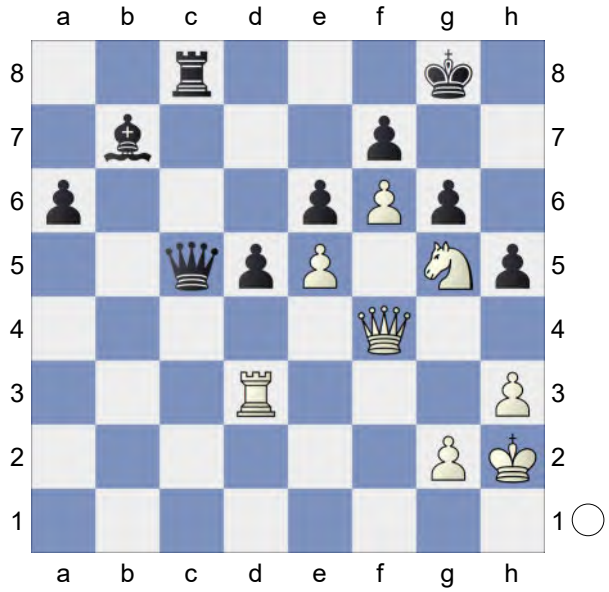


Nb3+ 1.29/21 **24.cxb3± Qxb2+**



25.Kd1! Qc2+ 26.Ke1 Qxc3+ 27.Kf2 Some like it hot **27...Nc6 28.Rd2 Qc5+ 29.Kg3 Rb8 30.h3** -0.01/17
[30.Qg5± 1.00/23]
30...Rxb3= And now ...g5! would win.
31.Bd3 Nb4 32.Rhd1 next Kh2 is good for White. **32...Bb7?** 2.46/26
[32...Rxd3= 0.01/25 and Black is okay. 33.Rxd3 Nxd3 34.Ng5+ Kg8 35.Rxd3 Bd7]
33.Kh2? 0.32/25

[33.Ng5++- 2.46/26 Kg8 34.Kh2 Rxd3 35.Rxd3 Nxd3 36.Rxd3]
33...Nxd3!± 34.Rxd3 Rxd3 5.29/28
[34...Qc4!± 0.47/23 35.Ng5+ Kg8]
35.Rxd3+- and Ng5+ should not be overlooked
[35.Ng5+ Kg8 36.Rxd3 Qc4=]
35...Rc8 11.51/27
[⌓35...Qc4 4.28/20 36.Ng5+ Kg8]
36.Ng5+ Kg8

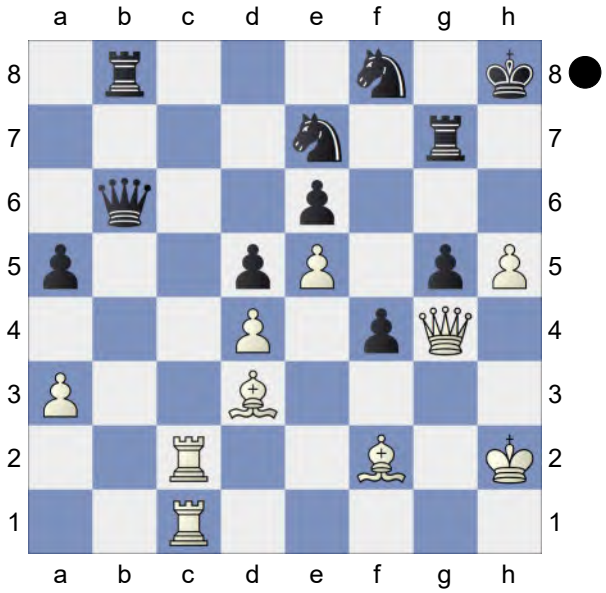


37.Nxe6! Qc1 38.Qxc1? 0.51/25
[White has to play 38.Re3+- 9.03/23 White threatens Qh6! and mate. fxe6 39.Qh6]
38...Rxc1± 39.Ng5 h4? 6.98/24
[39...Rc8± 0.52/21]
40.e6+- d4 41.Rxd4 Rc8 42.exf7+ Kf8 Weighted Error Value: White=0.37/Black=0.98 **43.Rxh4**
1-0

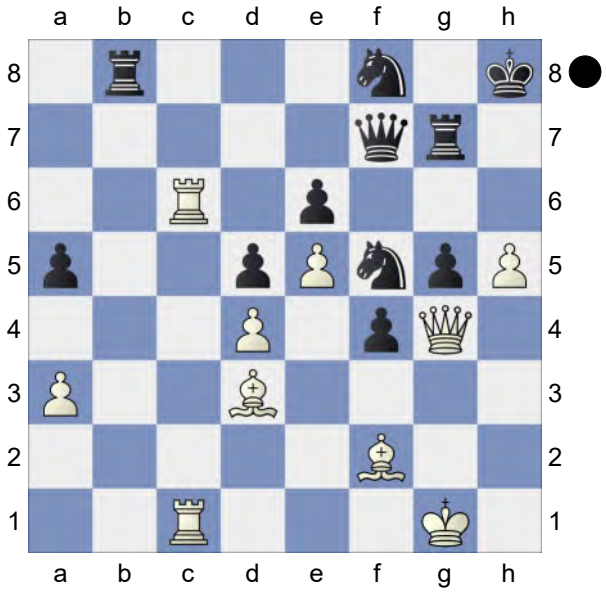
170 **C11**
□ **Moussard,Jules** **2676**
■ **Handler,Lukas** **2442**
Oesterreich 156/109 2023
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 Be7 8.Nf3 0-0 9.g3** -0.22/21
[⌓9.a3 0.18/20]
9...b5= 10.a3 a5 11.Bh3
[11.Bg2 a4 12.dxc5 Nxc5 13.Ned4 Na5 14.0-0 Bd7 15.Qe2 Nc4 16.Be3 Qc7 17.Rad1 Ne4 18.Rde1 Rae8 19.Kh1 f6 20.exf6 Bxf6 21.Bc1 h6 22.Nc2 Be7 23.Ne3 Bd6 24.Nh4 Rf7 25.Ng4 e5 ½-½ Lauron, P (2302)-10.dc5 ♗c5 11. ♗d2 (2631) World U20-ch22 Belfort 1983 (4)]
11...b4N Black has an edge.
[11...a4]
12.0-0 -0.46/24
[12.axb4= -0.05/24 cxb4 13.0-0]
12...bxc3 13.bxc3 Ba6 0.62/21
[13...Nb6∓ -0.48/23]
14.Rf2 -0.27/21
[14.f5± 0.62/21]
14...g6 0.12/20
[⌓14...Qb6 -0.27/21]
15.g4 -0.39/23
[15.f5= 0.12/20 exf5 16.g4]
15...f5 0.00/22
[15...cxd4∓ -0.39/23 is superior. 16.cxd4 Rb8]
16.gxf5 Bxe2 17.Rxe2 gxf5 18.Ng5 -0.33/20
[18.Kh1= 0.28/23]
18...Bxg5∓ 19.fxg5 Rf7 20.Bf1 cxd4 -0.14/21
[20...Rb8∓ -0.75/20]
21.cxd4= Qb6 0.21/22
[⌓21...Rb8 -0.18/23]

22.Be3 Rb8 23.Rc1 f4 24.Bf2 Rg7 0.59/23
[24...Ne7= 0.00/23]
25.h4± h6 26.Rec2 0.13/20
[26.g6± 0.57/23]
26...Ne7= 27.Qg4 Strongly threatening Rc6! **27...hxg5?** 1.68/23
[27...Nf8!= 0.00/21 and Black has nothing to worry.]
28.h5!+-
[28.hxg5 Nf8=]
28...Nf8 1.80/27
[28...Rf7± 1.44/21]
29.Bd3? -0.16/22
[29.h6+- 1.80/27 Rf7 30.Bd3 *(30.Qxg5+ Kh8±)*]
29...Kh8= 30.Kh2



Nf5 0.34/21 **31.Rc6?** -2.35/23
[31.Bxf5± 0.34/21 is the one way to stay ahead. exf5 32.Qxf5]
31...Nh6-+ A dynamic duo of knights.
[Much less strong is 31...Qb2 32.Kg1 Nh6 *(32...Qxa3? 33.Bxf5 exf5 34.Qxf5+-; 32...Nxd4 33.h6=)* 33.Qe2]
32.Qe2 -3.52/23
[⌓32.Qf3 -2.23/19 Qa7 33.Kg1]
32...Qd8 Threatens to win with ...g4.
33.Qf3 Qe8 ...g4 would now be deadly.
34.Kg1 Qf7 ...g4 is the strong threat.
35.Qd1 -4.19/22
[35.Qh1 -2.61/20 is a better defense.]
35...Nf5? -0.93/21
[35...f3-+ -4.19/22 36.Rc8 Rxc8 37.Rxc8 Qf4]
36.Qg4 -3.03/27
[36.Rc7∓ -0.93/21 Qe8 *(36...Qxc7 37.Rxc7 Rxc7 38.Bxf5=)* 37.a4]

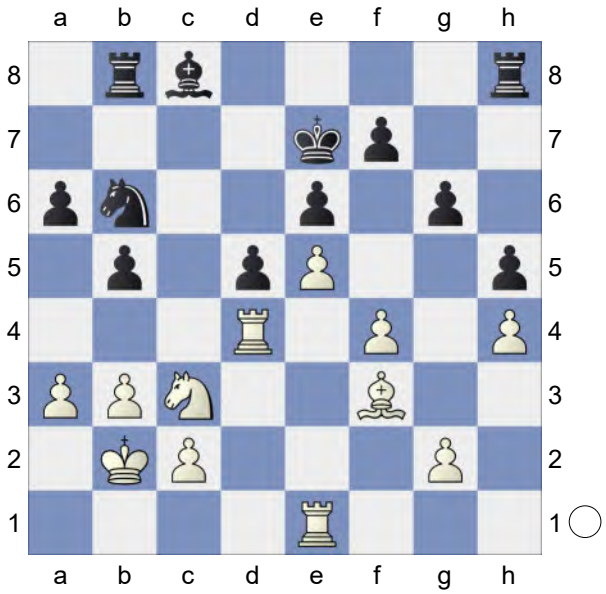


36...Nh6! 37.Qd1 Nf5? -0.30/21
[Black should try 37...f3-+ -4.14/21 38.Rc8 Rxc8 39.Rxc8 Qf4]
38.Qg4!= Nh6? -3.21/21
[38...Re8!∓ -0.52/23 39.Rxe6 Rxe6 *(39...Nxe6 40.Bxf5 Qd7 41.Ra1∓)* 40.Bxf5 Rb6]
39.Qd1!-+ Nf5? -0.31/22
[39...f3-+ -3.21/21 40.Rc8 Rxc8 41.Rxc8 Qf4]
40.Qg4! Weighted Error Value: White=0.52/Black=0.66
½-½

171 **C11**
□ **mitsutszkisszucs** **2675**
■ **MothToTheFlame** **2740**
Blitz 29.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

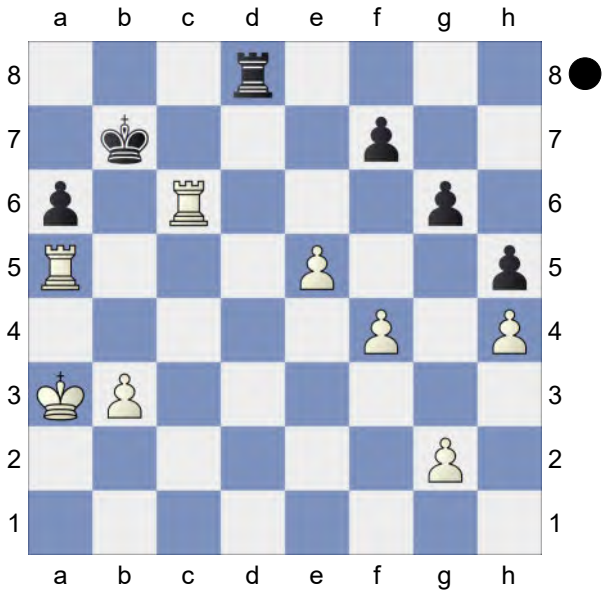
Blitz 3min C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.a3** 0.11/16
[8.Ne2± 0.49/17]
8...Qb6 0.52/20
[8...cxd4= 0.11/16 might be stronger. 9.Nxd4 Be7]
9.Be2 cxd4 10.Nxd4 Bc5 The position is equal.
[10...Qxb2? 11.Na4 Bb4+ 12.Kf2 *(12.axb4 Qxb4+ 13.Qd2 Qxd2+ 14.Kxd2 Ne7+-)* 12...Nxd4 13.Nxb2+-]
11.Na4! Qa5+ 12.Nc3N -0.01/18
[12.c3± 0.41/23 Bxd4 13.Bxd4 Nxd4 14.Qxd4 Qc7 15.b4 0-0 16.0-0 b5 17.Nb2 Bb7 18.a4 bxa4 19.Rxa4 Rfc8 20.Ra3 a5 21.b5 Nc5 22.Rfa1 Rab8 23.Na4 Ne4 24.Bd3 h6 25.c4 Nc5 26.Qxc5 Qxc5+ 27.Nxc5 Rxc5 28.cxd5 6 Chapter C00-Games Chapter C00 Game Rxd5 29.Bf1 Rd4 30.g3 Bd5 31.Rxa5 Rd2 32.Rc1 Rb2 33.Raa1 Be4 34.Ra4 Bd5 35.Raa1 Be4 36.Ra4 Bd5 ½-½ Ragger,M (2670)-Vitiugov,N (2731) Prague Masters 2nd 2020 (2)]
12...Bxd4 13.Bxd4 Nxd4 14.Qxd4 Qc5 15.0-0-0 Qxd4 16.Rxd4 Ke7 17.h4 h5 18.Re1 g6 19.Bf3 Rb8 20.b3 b5 21.Kb2 Nb6

(Diagram)



22.a4 -0.01/23 **bxa4 23.Nxa4 Bd7 24.Nxb6 Rxb6 25.Ra1 Ra8 26.Ra5 Bb5** 0.88/22
[26...Rc8= 0.08/20]
27.Rd1 -0.01/23 White is more active.
[27.c4!± 0.88/22 Bc6 *(27...Bxc4? too greedy. 28.Rxc4 dxc4 29.Bxa8+-)* 28.cxd5 exd5 29.Bxd5]
27...Kd8 28.Ka3
[28.Ka2!?]
28...Rab8 29.c4↑ Black is under pressure. **29...Bc6** 0.86/27
[29...Bd7= 0.01/23]
Black is on the road to losing. **30.Rd3±**
[30.cxd5 Rxb3+ 31.Ka2 Rb2+ 32.Ka1 Bxd5∓]
30...Kc7? 3.71/26
[30...Ke7± 0.65/26]
31.cxd5+- exd5 32.Bxd5 Rd8? 8.11/24
[32...Bb5 2.99/23]
33.Rc3 Kb7 34.Bxc6+ Rxc6 35.Rxc6

(Diagram)



Remove Defender **35...Kxc6 36.Rxa6+** Endgame KR-KR. White is two pawns up. **36...Kb5 37.Rf6 Rd2 38.Rxf7 Rxg2 39.e6 Re2 40.e7 Re4 41.f5 gxf5 42.Rxf5+ Kb6 43.Rxh5 Rxe7 44.Rh8 Re4 45.h5 Rh4 46.h6 Kb7 47.b4 Rh5 48.Ka4 Kb6 49.Kb3** Black must now prevent Kc4. **49...Kb7?** 8.29/22

[49...Rh4± 0.94/23 50.h7 Ka7]

50.Kc4 Ka6 51.Kd4 Kb7 52.Ke4 Rh4+ 53.Kf5 Rxb4 54.Rf8 Rb5+ 55.Kg6 Threatening mate with h7. **55...Rb1 56.h7** White mates. **56...Rg1+ 57.Kf7 Rf1+ 58.Ke7 Re1+ 59.Kd6 Rd1+ 60.Kc5 Rc1+** Weighted Error Value: White=0.43/Black=0.59 **61.Kb4 1-0**

172 **C11**
□ **Leko,Peter** **2674**
■ **Cori,J.** **2686**
52nd Biel GM Blitz 2019 (8.2) 27.07.2019
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Be7 8.Qd2 0-0 9.dxc5 Nxc5 10.Be2**

[10.0-0-0 a6 11.Qf2 b6 12.Nd4 Qc7 13.Kb1 Bb7 14.Nxc6 Bxc6 15.Bd4 Bb7 16.Bd3 b5 17.Ne2 b4 18.Ng3 Rac8 19.f5 f6 20.exf6 Bxf6 21.Bxc5 Qxc5 22.Qxc5 Rxc5 23.fxe6 Re8 24.Rde1 g6 ½-½ Sudgen,J (2773)-Osnos,V (2787) Zagreb 1955]

10...a6 11.0-0 b5 The position is equal. **12.a3N**

[12.Nd4 Bb7 13.Bf3 Na5 14.b3 Qc7 15.Nce2 Nc6 16.c3 Rac8 17.Nxc6 Bxc6 18.Nd4 Bb7 19.Rac1 Rfd8 20.Rfd1 Ne4 21.Bxe4 dxe4 22.Qf2 Ba3 23.Rc2 Bd5 24.h4 h5 25.Qg3 g6 26.f5 exf5 1-0 Huerter,H (2237)-Rom,J (2202) Titled Tuesday intern op 09th May Early blitz 2023 (11) 27.Nxf5 Be6 28.Nd6 Bg4 29.Rdd2 Bxd6 30.exd6 Qd7 31.Bf4 Rc6 32.Rf2 Rdc8 33.Be5 Qe6 34.Rf6 Qd5 35.Qf4 Qd1+ 36.Kh2 Qd5 37.Rf2 Rxc3 38.Rxf7 1-0 Boiky,I (2237)-Seyfried,K (2202) 125/114 2015 (11)]

12...Qc7 13.Nd4 Rd8 14.Nxc6 Qxc6 15.Bd4 Ne4 16.Qe3 Bb7 17.Nxe4 0.14/15

[17.h3± 0.55/19]

17...dxe4= 18.c3 g6 19.Rfd1 0.01/18

[19.g4± 0.41/20]

19...a5 20.b4 Rdc8 0.91/21

[20...axb4= -0.01/19 21.axb4 Rxa1 22.Rxa1 Ba6]

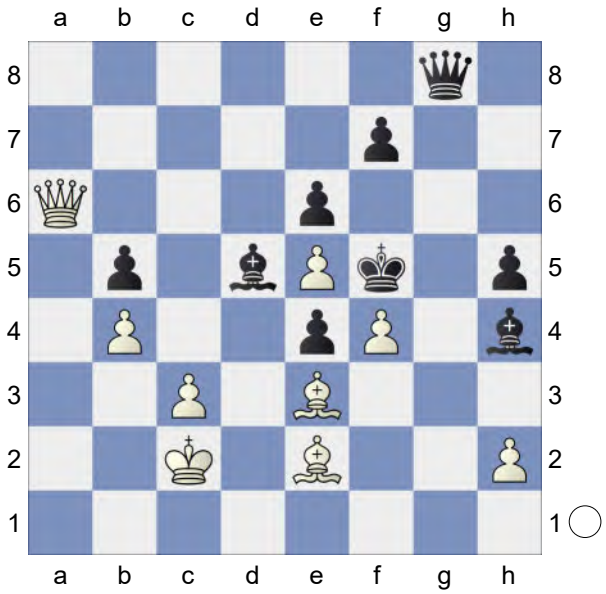
21.Bf1 -0.01/22

[21.a4!± 0.91/21 Ba6 22.c4 *(22.bxa5 bxa4 23.c4 Bxc4-+)* 22...bxc4 23.b5 *(23.bxa5 Bb4∓)* 23...Bxb5 24.axb5 Qxb5 25.Qxe4]

21...axb4 22.axb4 Qe8 23.Qe2

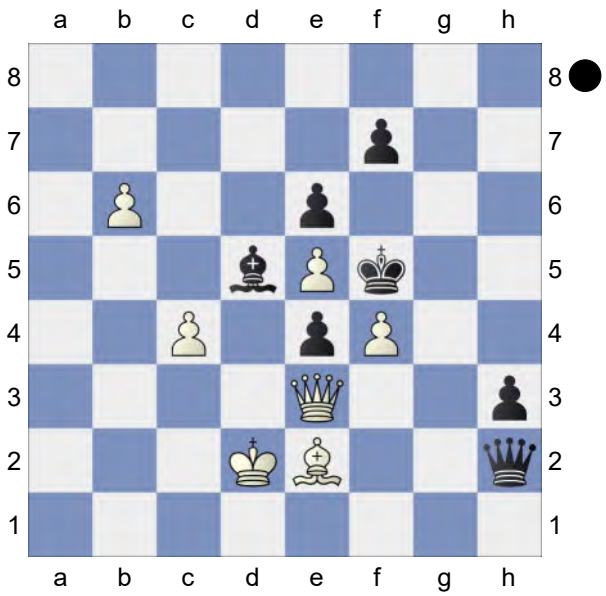
-0.01/22
[23.h3± 0.36/21]
23...Bc6! 24.g3 Rxa1 25.Rxa1 Ra8 26.Qe1 Rxa1 27.Qxa1 Qd7 0.48/24
Black is weak on the dark squares
[27...e3= 0.01/23]
28.Qa7± Qe8 0.75/22
[28...Bb7± 0.33/21]
29.Kf2 0.37/22
[29.h4± 0.75/22]
29...g5 0.86/21
[29...Qd8± 0.37/22]
30.Ke3 0.38/21
[30.fxg5!± 0.86/21 Black must now prevent Be3. Bxg5 31.Be3]
30...gxf4+ 31.gxf4
[31.Kxf4? Qf8 32.Ke3 Qh6+ 33.Ke2 Qxh2+ 34.Kd1 Bg5-+]
31...Bh4 32.Bg2 0.01/24
[32.Bb6± 0.53/23]
32...Bd5= 33.Bf1 Bc6! 34.Qc7 Qa8 35.Qa7 -0.01/21
[35.Qa5± 0.69/24 Qe8 36.Bc5]
35...Qe8! 36.Be2 Kh8 37.Kd2 Kg7 0.87/23
[37...h6± 0.47/22]
38.Kc2 Kg6 0.97/24
[38...h6± 0.56/22 should be considered.]
39.Bg4 0.51/22
[39.Qa1!± 0.97/24 h6 40.Bc5]
39...h5 40.Be2 Bd5 41.Qa6 Kf5? 4.26/23
[41...Bc6± 0.82/21 is tougher.]
42.Be3? 0.24/24
[42.Qxb5 Qxb5 43.Bxb5 Kxf4±]
[42.Bxb5+- 4.26/23 Qd8 43.Qa7]
42...Qg8 3.77/26
[42...Bc4= 0.24/24 43.Bxc4 *(43.Bxh5 Qh8∓)* 43...bxc4]

(Diagram)



43.Qxb5? 0.05/23
[43.Bxh5? Qg2+ 44.Kc1 Bb3-+ *(44...Qxh2 45.Qa7±)*]
[43.Bf1!+- 3.77/26]
43...Qg2↑ Black is more active. **44.Kd2 Bf2?** 3.26/25
[44...Qh1!= 0.06/26 45.Bf1 Qxh2+ 46.Qe2 Bg3 *(46...Qxe2+ 47.Bxe2 Bg3 48.Bxh5±)*]
45.Qc5?? -7.22/22
[45.Bxh5? Bxe3+ 46.Kxe3 Qh3+ *(46...Qxh2? 47.c4-+)* 47.Kd4 Qxh5-+]
[45.Qd7+- 3.26/25 Bxe3+ 46.Kxe3]
45...Bxe3+-+ 46.Qxe3 Qxh2 -2.45/20
Endgame KQB-KQB
[46...Bc4 -7.38/22 47.h4 Ba6]
47.b5? -5.99/21
[47.Ke1 -2.45/20 h4 *(47...Qxf4 48.Qxf4+ Kxf4 49.Bxh5±)* 48.c4]
47...h4!
[47...Qxf4 48.c4 Qxe5 49.cxd5±]
48.b6 h3? -0.38/23
[48...Qxf4-+ -8.32/21 49.Ba6 h3 *(49...Kxe5 50.c4∓; 49...Qxe5 50.b7∓; 49...Qh2+? 50.Ke1∓)*]
49.c4 -1.48/22

(Diagram)

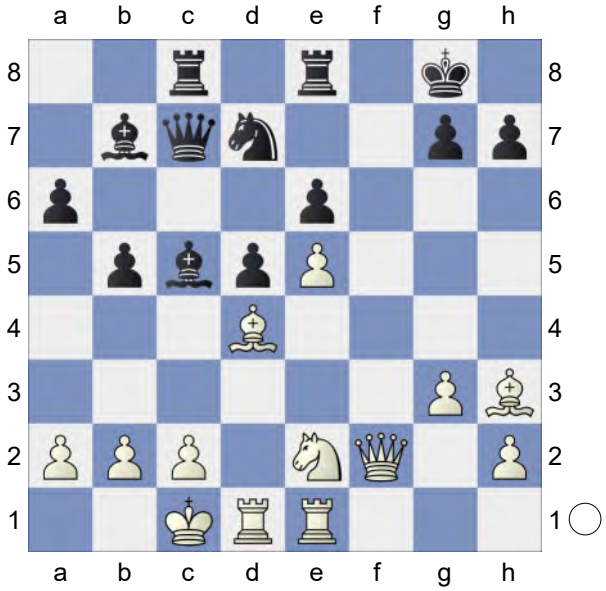


Bc6!∓ Chess con chili.
[49...Bxc4?! 50.b7 Bxe2 51.b8Q= *(51.b8B Bd3+ 52.Ke1 Qh1+ 53.Kd2 Qg2+ 54.Kc3 Qc2+ 55.Kb4 Qc4+ 56.Ka3 Qc3+ 57.Ka4 Bc2+ 58.Kb5 Qxe3 59.Kc6 h2 60.Bc7 h1Q 61.Bb6 Qc3+ 62.Kd6 Ba4 63.Bf2 Qc6+ 64.Ke7 Qc7+ 65.Kf8 Qh8#)*]
50.Kc3? -9.31/20
[50.Ke1 -1.70/21]
50...Qg2-+ ...h2 would now be deadly.
[50...Qxf4 51.Qxh3+ Kxe5 52.Qh8+ Kf5 53.Qd4=]
51.Qc5 Qxe2 52.Qxc6 h2 53.Qd7 h1Q 54.Qxf7+ Kg4 55.Qxe6+ Kf3 -24.46/21
[⌓55...Kg3 -#15/21 56.Kd4 Qb2+ *(56...Kxf4 57.Qf6+ Kg3 58.Qg5+ Kf2 59.Qf4+ Qhf3 60.Qh2+ Kf1 61.Qxe2+ Qxe2 62.b7-+)* 57.Kc5 Qg1+ *(57...Kxf4? 58.Qf6+ Ke3 59.Kc6-+)* 58.Kd6 Qgxb6+ *(58...Kxf4? 59.Qf6+ Ke3 60.Kc6-+)* 59.Ke7 Qxe6+ *(59...Kxf4 60.Qxb6* Remove Defender *Qxb6 61.c5 Qxc5+ 62.Ke6 Qxe5+ 63.Kd7 e3 64.Kc6 e2 65.Kd7 e1Q 66.Kc6 Q1a5 67.Kd7 Qac7#)* 60.Kxe6 Kxf4 61.c5 Qxe5+ 62.Kd7 Qxc5 63.Ke6 e3 64.Kf6 e2 65.Kf7 e1Q *(65...e1B 66.Kf6 Bb4 67.Kg6 Qg5+ 68.Kf7 Kg4 69.Ke8 Qe7#)* 66.Kg6 Qg5+ 67.Kh7 Qeh4#]
56.Kb4 Weighted Error Value: White=1.30/Black=0.77 **56...Qb1+?** 0.00/5 Loss on time!?
[56...Qb2+ -#8/18 mates 57.Kc5 Qg1+ Skewer, Deflection *(57...Kxf4? 58.Qf7+ Ke3 59.Kc6-+)* 58.Kd6 Qbxb6+ 59.Kd7 Qg7+ *(59...Kxf4 60.Qxb6 Qxb6 61.c5 Qxc5 62.e6 Ke5 63.e7 Qd6+* Deflection *64.Kc8 Qxe7 65.Kb8 Kd6 66.Ka8 Kc6 67.Kb8 Qb7#)* 60.Qe7 Qb7+ 61.Ke6 Qgxe7+ 62.Kf5 Qh7+ 63.Kg5 Qbg7#]
0-1

173 **C11**
□ **Edouard,Romain** **2674**
■ **Cruz,Cristhian** **2569**
Espana 123/102 2014
[Kitty Kat]

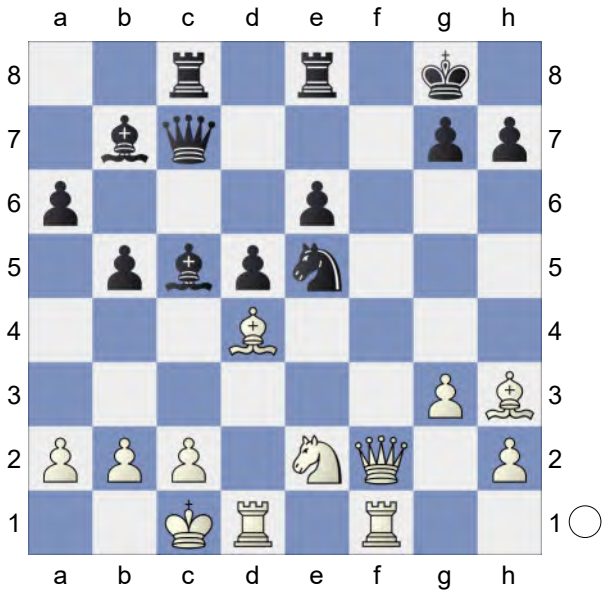
C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Bc5 9.Qd2 0-0 10.0-0-0 a6 11.Qf2** 0.23/21
[11.Nb3± 0.59/21 Bb4 12.Nd4]
11...Nxd4= 12.Bxd4 b6 0.66/19
[Better is 12...Bxd4= 0.16/20 13.Qxd4 *(13.Rxd4 b5=)* 13...b5]
13.g3N 0.11/21
[White should play 13.h4± 0.66/19]
[13.Qe3 Bb7 14.Bd3 Bxd4 15.Qxd4 f6 16.exf6 Qxf6 17.Qxf6 Rxf6 18.g3 Re8 19.Rhe1 b5 20.Bf1 Nb6 21.Rd4 Bc6 22.a4 Nxa4 23.Nxa4 bxa4 24.Bxa6 Ra8 25.Bd3 h6

26.Rb4 Ra7 27.Kb1 Kf7
Chapter-Anti Marshall - 8.a4 Bb7]
13...Bb7 0.51/19
[13...Qc7= 0.11/21]
14.Bh3 0.00/20
[14.Bd3± 0.51/19]
14...Rc8 0.58/20
[14...Qc7= 0.00/20]
15.Rhe1 0.20/21
[15.Ne2± 0.58/20]
15...Re8 0.62/21
[15...Bxd4= 0.20/21 is superior. 16.Rxd4 Re8]
16.f5 White is more active. **16...Qc7 17.fxe6 fxe6 18.Ne2** This costs Black the game. **18...b5?** 2.10/21
[18...Nxe5 19.Bxc5 bxc5 20.Nf4±]
[18...a5!= 0.20/20 and Black has nothing to worry.]



19.Rf1!+- Bxe6+! would now be deadly.
19...Nxe5 2.41/23
[19...Kh8 1.62/19]

(Diagram)



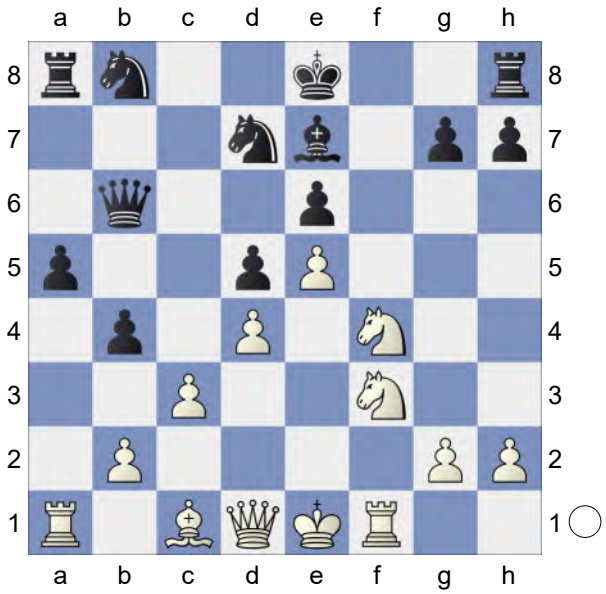
20.Bxc5! Qxc5 21.Qxc5 Rxc5 22.Nd4 Bc8 23.Rfe1 Ng6 3.70/25
[23...Nc6 1.80/20]
24.Nxe6
[24.Bxe6+ Bxe6 25.Nxe6 *(25.Rxe6 Rxe6 26.Nxe6 Rc6=)* 25...Rc6±]
24...Rc4 25.Rxd5 Nf8
[Not 25...Rc6? 26.Rd8+-]
26.Rde5 h6? 5.34/23
[26...Nxe6 3.33/21 was necessary. 27.Bxe6+ Bxe6 28.Rxe6 Rec8]
27.b3 White is clearly winning. **27...Rc3 28.Kb2 b4 29.a3 a5 30.Nf4 Rxe5 31.Rxe5 g5** Weighted Error Value: White=0.14 (very precise) /Black=0.74
32.Nd5
1-0

174 **C11**
□ **Aktinia22** **2673**
■ **bulletnik** **2801**
Blitz 14.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.d4 Nf6 2.Nc3 e6 3.e4 d5 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2**

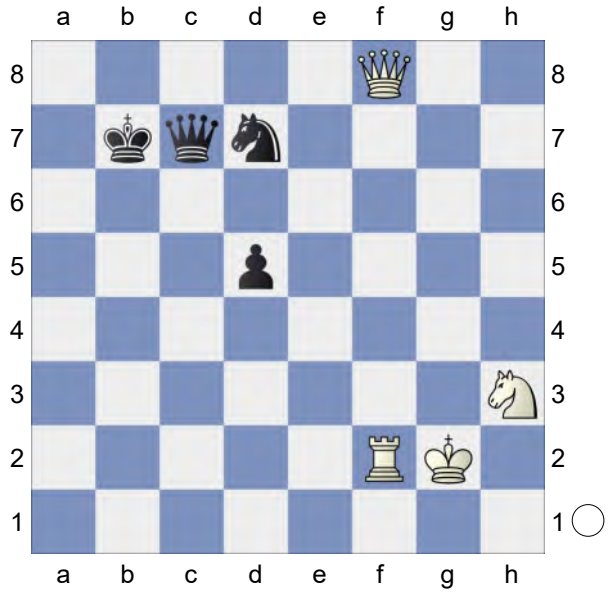
c5 6.c3 b5 0.55/17
[6...Nc6= 0.03/17]
[6...Qb6 7.Nf3 f6 8.exf6 Nxf6 9.g3 Bd6 10.Bg2 0-0 11.0-0 Nc6 12.b3 cxd4 13.cxd4 Bd7 14.Bf4 Ba3 15.Nc3 Alekhine,A (2610)-Hermann,J (2615) 133/134 Biel 2017]
7.a3 0.17/17
[7.Nf4± 0.55/17]
[7.Nf3 c4 8.h4 h6 9.Nf4 Nb6 10.Rh3 g6 11.Nh2 Be7 12.Ng4 h5 13.Nh2 Bxh4 14.g4 hxg4 15.Qxg4 Kd7 16.b3 Be7 17.a4 a5 18.Rb1 Rxh3 19.Qxh3 g5 20.Nh5 Ba6 21.Qf3 Qg8 ½-½ Finkel,A (2485)-Mittelman,G (2440) ISR-chT Israel 2002 (4)]
7...a5 0.54/17
[7...Nc6= 0.17/17]
8.f4 Qb6N 0.85/17
[8...Nc6= 0.24/17]
[8...cxd4 9.Nxd4 Ba6 10.Bxb5 Bxb5 11.Nxb5 Qb6 12.Qe2 Bc5 13.Nf3 a4 14.h4 Nc6 15.Rh3 Rb8 16.Nd6+ Bxd6 17.exd6 0-0 18.Rg3 Qc5 19.Ng5 Nf6 20.Be3 Qxd6 21.0-0-0 Rb3 22.Qa6 Rfb8 23.Rd2 0-1 Kais,E (2040)-Kelecevic,N (2475) Goetzis op Götzis 1996 (2) Qc7 24.Rc2 h6 25.Nf3 Ne4 26.Rh3 R3b5 27.Nd4 Nxd4 28.cxd4 Rxb2 29.Rxc7 Rb1+ 30.Kc2 R8b2+ 31.Kd3 Rd1+ 32.Bd2 Rdxd2+ 0-1 Khubukshanov,E (2040)-Klavestad,G (2475) 114/(136) Moscow 2012 (2)]
9.Nf3± White is better. **9...b4** 1.77/18
[9...Be7± 0.56/16]
10.axb4+- cxb4 11.f5! Ba6 2.50/18
[⌓11...Be7 1.63/17]
12.Nf4 Bxf1 3.44/17
[12...exf5 2.20/17 13.Bxa6 *(13.Nxd5 Qc6±)* 13...Qxa6 14.Nxd5 Qc6]

13.Rxf1 Be7 14.fxe6 fxe6



15.Ng5! Decoy **15...Bxg5**
[15...0-0 16.Ngxe6]
16.Qh5+ Kd8 and ...Bxf4 would now be decisive **17.Qxg5+ Kc7 18.Qe7 Ra6 19.Qxg7 Rc8** Black is weak on the dark squares **20.Qxh7 Kb7 21.Bd2 Rc7** 5.39/16
[21...Ka8 3.69/17 keeps fighting. 22.Nd3 Qb5]
22.Qd3 Rc8 5.91/17
[⌓22...b3 4.14/15 23.h4 a4]
23.h4 Re8 7.26/17
[⌓23...b3 4.60/15 24.g4 Qd8]
24.h5 Nc6 25.g4 a4 26.h6 a3 27.bxa3 Rxa3 28.Rb1 b3 29.g5 Na5 30.g6 Nc4 31.g7 Ra2 32.Rf2 Na3 33.Rd1 b2 34.h7 Ra1 35.g8Q
[35.g8B Qb3 *(35...b1R? 36.Rxb1 Rxb1+ 37.Ke2+-; 35...Rxd1+ 36.Kxd1 b1Q+ 37.Ke2∓)* 36.Be3 Rxd1+ *(36...b1R? 37.Rxb1 Rxb1+ 38.Ke2+-)* 37.Qxd1 Qxd1+ *(37...b1R? 38.Qxb1 Qxb1+ 39.Ke2-+)* 38.Kxd1 b1Q+-+ *(38...b1R+? 39.Bc1+-)*]
35...Rxd1+ 36.Kxd1 b1Q+ 37.Qxb1 Qxb1+ 38.Bc1 Qb3+ 39.Ke1 Qxc3+

40.Bd2 Qa1+ 41.Ke2 Rxg8 42.hxg8Q Nb6 43.Qxe6 9.08/19
[⌓43.Nxe6 #12/26 Ka6 44.Qe8 *(44.Nc5+ Kb5 45.Qe8+ Kc4 46.Qc6 Qxd4 47.Ne6+* Discovered Attack (Check) *Kb3 48.Nxd4+ Ka2 49.Qc3 Nbc4 50.Qb3+ Ka1 51.Rf1+ Nb1 52.Rxb1#)* 44...Qc1 45.Bxc1 Nc2 46.Nc5+ Ka7 47.Rf7+ Nd7 48.Rxd7+ Kb6 49.Rd6+ Kc7 50.Qd8#]
43...Qxd4 44.Qd6? 3.50/21
[44.Be3 10.16/18 Qb2+ 45.Kf3]
44...Nac4 45.Qb4 0.01/19
[45.Qe7+ Ka6 46.e6 Qe4+ 47.Kd1 Nxd2 48.Qa3+ *(48.Kxd2 Nc4+ 49.Kd1 Qb1+ 50.Ke2 Qe4+ 51.Kd1 Qb1+ 52.Ke2 Qe4+ 53.Kd1=)* 48...Kb7]
[45.Qc7++- 4.02/19 Ka6 46.Bc1]
45...Qxe5+?? 4.78/18
[45...Qe4+= 0.01/19 46.Be3 *(46.Kd1 Ne3+ 47.Ke2 Nec4+±)* 46...Qxe3+ 47.Kf1 Qxe5]
46.Kf1 Qa1+ 47.Kg2 Qg7+ 48.Kh2 Qh7+ 49.Nh3 Ne5 50.Be3 Nec4 51.Bxb6 Nxb6 52.Qf8 aiming for Rf7+.
52...Qc7+ 53.Kg2 Nd7

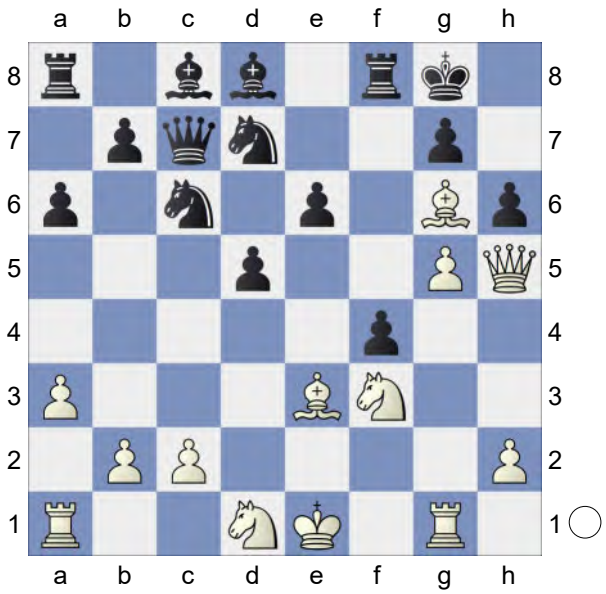


54.Nf4?? -6.36/19 Weighted Error Value: White=0.25 (precise) /Black=0.73
54...Nxf8
0-1

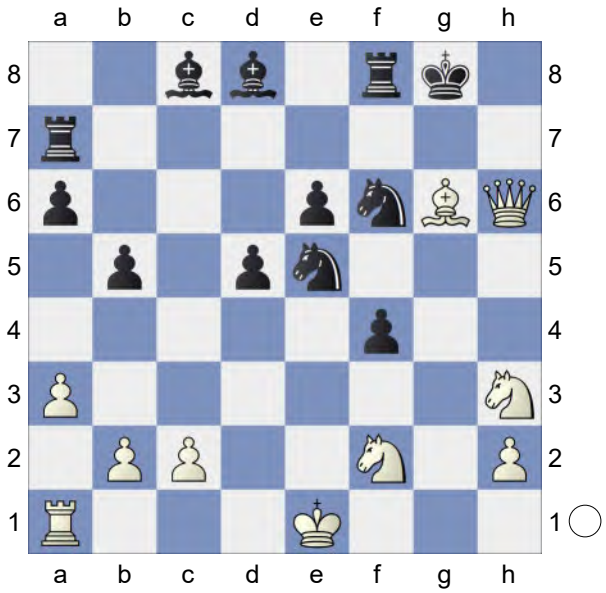
175 **C11**
□ **duchessAI** **2673**
■ **pawn_git** **2762**
Classical 15.01.2025
[Kitty Kat]

Rapid 30min+1sec C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Be3
[6.Nce2 cxd4 7.Nxd4 Nc6 8.Ngf3 Nc5 *(8...Be7 9.c3 Nc5 10.Be2 0-0 11.Be3 Bd7 12.0-0 f6 13.Qe1 Qe8 14.exf6 Rxf6 15.Nxc6 Bxc6 16.Ne5 Nd7 17.Nxc6 bxc6 18.Bd4 Bc5 19.Kh1 Bxd4 20.cxd4 c5 21.Rc1 cxd4 22.Qd2 Nf8 23.Qxd4* 1-0 Dyachuk,A (2295)-Eggleston,T (2178) Titled Tuesday intern op 21st Jan Late blitz 2025 (1)*)* 9.Be3 Bd7 10.c3 Be7 11.Nb3 b6 12.Be2 Nxb3 13.axb3 Bc5 14.Qd2 a5 15.0-0 0-0 16.Bd3 Qe7 17.Kh1 f6 18.exf6 gxf6 19.Rae1 Qd6 20.Qf2 Rf7 ½-½ 4.h3 ♗g7 5. ♘f3 de4 6. ♘e (2602)-Kaussen,O (2656) New York op 1996 (5)]
6...cxd4 7.Qxd4 Nc6 8.Qd2 Bb4N 0.58/19
[8...Bc5= 0.08/17 9.Nf3 0-0]
[8...f6 9.exf6 Nxf6 10.Nge2 Bb4 11.0-0-0 0-0 12.a3 Ba5 13.Qd3 Bd7 14.h3 a6 15.g4 b5 16.Bc5 Rf7 17.f5 b4 18.fxe6 Bxe6 19.axb4 Bxb4 20.Nf4 Bxc3 21.Qxc3 Ne4 22.Nxe6 Qc8 23.Qe3 1-0 Xu,Y (2502)-Matveeva,S (2428) WWCC

2006 0:14.46-0:00.28 (52)]
9.a3± Be7 10.Nf3 a6 11.Qf2 0.13/18
[11.h4± 0.51/18]
11...0-0!= 12.Bd3 0.01/18
[12.Nd4!± 0.50/19]
12...f6 13.Qh4 h6 14.Qg4 -0.09/19
[14.Qh5± 0.35/20 fxe5 15.fxe5]
14...Nc5 15.Bg6 Qb6 16.Nd1 Qc7
[16...Qb5 seems wilder. 17.Qh5 Ne4 18.Nf2 Qxb2]
17.Qh5 Nd7 18.g4! Bd8? 2.11/17
[18...fxe5= -0.01/15 and Black has nothing to worry. 19.g5 exf4 20.gxh6 Nf6 *(20...fxe3? 21.hxg7 Kxg7 22.Rg1+-)*]
19.Rg1!+- fxe5 2.37/19
[19...a5± 1.46/16]
20.g5! exf4

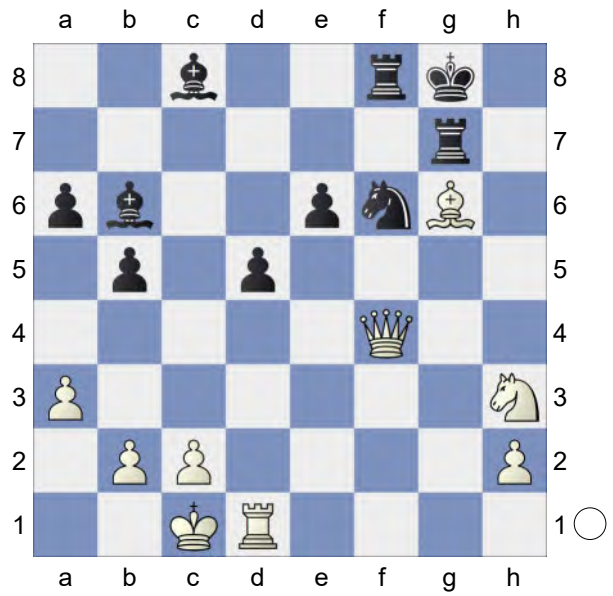


21.Bb6! Qxb6
[21...Nxb6 22.gxh6 Rf6 23.Bh7+ Kf8 *(23...Kxh7 24.hxg7+ Kg8 25.Qh8+ Kf7 26.Qf8#)* 24.hxg7+]
22.gxh6 Qxg1+
[22...Nde5 23.Bh7+ Kxh7 24.hxg7+ *(24.Rxg7+? Kh8-+)* 24...Kg8 25.Qh8+ Kf7 26.gxf8Q#]
23.Nxg1 Nf6 24.Qg5 White wants to mate with Bh7+!. **24...gxh6**
[Worse is 24...Ne4 25.Bh7+ Kf7 26.Qxg7+ *(26.Qxf4+ Nf6±)* 26...Ke8 27.Bg6+]
25.Qxh6 b5 26.Nh3
[26.Qxf4 Ra7 27.Qd6 Na5-+]
26...Ne5 27.Ndf2!
[27.Nxf4 Ra7 28.h3 Rg7=]
27...Ra7

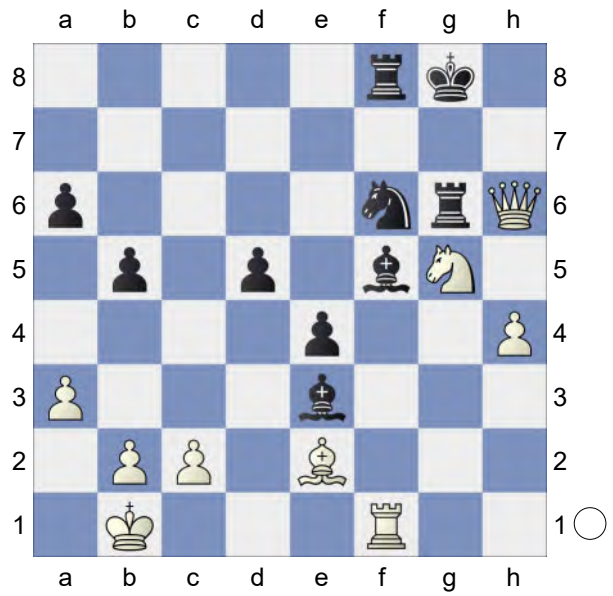


28.0-0-0!
[28.Nxf4 Nfg4 29.Nxg4 Nxg4∓]
28...Neg4 29.Nxg4 Deflection
[29.Qxf4 e5 30.Qg5 Rg7=]
29...Nxg4 30.Qh5 Nf6 31.Qh4 Bb6 Prevents Rg1 **32.Qxf4 Rg7**

(Diagram)



33.Bd3 e5 34.Qh6
[Not 34.Qxe5 Bxh3 35.Kb1 Bc7±]
34...e4 35.Be2 Rh7 Dodges Kb1
36.Qg6+ -0.01/28
[36.Qg5++- 3.06/23 Rg7 37.Qh4]
36...Kh8⇄ Black is fighting back
[36...Rg7!? 37.Qh6□ Rh7 38.Qg5+ Rg7=]
37.Ng5 Be3+ 38.Kb1 Rg7 39.Qh6+ Kg8 40.h4 Bf5 And now ...Rg6 would win. This pair of bishops is nice. **41.Rf1** Dancing on a razor blade. **41...Rg6**



42.Qxf8+ Kxf8 43.Rxf5 Ke7 44.Re5+ Kd7 45.a4 bxa4 46.Ka2 Bxg5 47.Rxg5 Rxg5 48.hxg5= Endgame KB-KN. Black is a pawn up. **48...Ne8 49.g6 Ke7 50.Ka3 Kf6 51.Kxa4**
[51.Bxa6 Kxg6 52.Kxa4 Kf6 53.Bf1]
51...Nd6 0.16/26
[⌓51...Kxg6 -0.21/24 52.Bxa6 Kf5]
52.Kb4 Strongly threatening Kc5.
52...Nc4 53.b3
[53.Kc5 simplifies Nxb2 54.Kxd5 Kxg6 55.Kxe4 a5 56.Kd4]
53...Ne3 54.Bxa6 Kxg6 55.Kc5 Nxc2 56.Kxd5 Nb4+ 57.Ke5 Nxa6 58.Kf4 Nc5 59.b4 Nd3+ 60.Kxe4 Black defended with fortune. Weighted Error Value: White=0.18 (very precise) / Black=0.10 (very precise) **60...Nxb4**
½-½

176 **C11**
□ **Benditoporlatormenta** **2673**
■ **bananarepublic21** **2763**
Blitz 12.01.2025
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.a3 Qb6**
[8...b5 9.Qd2 Bb7 10.Be2 cxd4 11.Nxd4 b4 12.axb4 Bxb4 13.0-0 0-0 14.Bd3 Qc7 15.Qf2 Nxd4 16.Bxd4 Bc5 17.Ne2 g6 18.c3 Rfb8 19.h4 a5 20.h5 Ba6 21.Bxa6 Rxa6 22.b4 Bxd4 23.Qxd4 1-0 Tologontegin,S (2369)-Maksimovic,B (2497) Titled Tuesday intern op 06th Feb Late blitz 2024 (5)]
9.Na4N 0.18/20
[9.dxc5± 0.56/21 Bxc5 10.Na4 Qa5+ 11.b4 Qxa4 12.bxc5 0-0 13.Be2 *(13.c4 Qa5+ 14.Qd2 Qxd2+*

15.Kxd2 Rd8 16.Kc3 Rb8 17.Rb1 Ne7 18.Nd2 Nf8 19.c6 Nxc6 20.Bb6 Re8 21.Bc7 Ra8 22.c5 #3 26. Steinitz 7.Be3 a6-Steinitz 7.Be3 a6 8.a3 Qb6*)* 13...Rd8 14.0-0 d4 15.Bf2 Nxc5 16.Nd2 Rb8 17.Nc4 b5 18.Nd6 Chapter French Steinitz-7...a6 #12 Lifetime Repertoires: Sethuraman's 1. e]

[9.Be2 cxd4 10.Nxd4 Bc5 11.Na4 Qa5+ 12.c3 Bxd4 13.Bxd4 Nxd4 14.Qxd4 Qc7 15.b4 0-0 16.0-0 b5 17.Nb2 Bb7 18.a4 bxa4 19.Rxa4 Rfc8 20.Ra3 a5 21.b5 Nc5 22.Rfa1 Rab8 23.Na4 Ne4 ½-½ Ragger,M (2670)-Vitiugov,N (2731) Prague Masters 2nd 2020 (2) 24.Bd3 h6 25.c4 Nc5 26.Qxc5 Qxc5+ 27.Nxc5 Rxc5 28.cxd5 Rxd5 29.Bf1 Rd4 30.g3 Bd5 31.Rxa5 Rd2 32.Rc1 Rb2 33.Raa1 Be4 34.Ra4 Bd5 35.Raa1 Be4 36.Ra4 Bd5 6 Chapter C00-Games Chapter C00 Game]

9...Qa5+= 10.c3 -0.15/19

[10.Bd2 0.30/21 should be considered. Qc7 *(10...Qxa4? 11.b3+-)* 11.dxc5]

10...cxd4 0.85/19

[10...c4!= -0.15/19 remains equal.]

11.b4±

[11.Bxd4 b5∓]

11...Qd8 12.cxd4 Be7 1.14/17

[12...Nb6± 0.69/19]

13.Bd3 0-0 2.15/17

[13...Nb6± 0.88/18]

14.0-0 Nb6 2.43/18

[14...f5± 1.41/17 15.Rc1 h6]

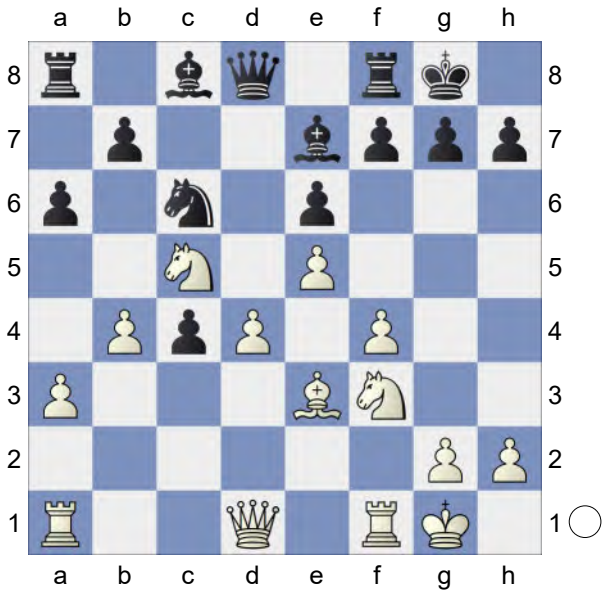
15.Nc5? 0.62/18

[15.Nxb6+- 2.43/18 Qxb6 16.Bc2]

15...Nc4± 16.Bxc4 0.39/19

[16.Qe2± 0.85/18]

16...dxc4



17.Qc2! Rad1 is the strong threat.

17...Qd5 1.84/19

[17...b5!± 0.47/18]

18.Rad1 0.99/19

[18.Ne4+- 1.84/19]

18...Rd8? 3.80/19

[18...Bd8± 0.99/19]

19.Ng5? 0.88/21

[19.Na4+- 3.80/19 is more deadly.]

19...Bxg5± 20.fxg5 Ne7 Black is weak on the dark squares **21.Ne4** 0.30/22 White has more active pieces.

[White should play 21.Na4± 0.96/22]

21...Nf5= 22.Bf2 -0.37/23

[22.Bc1± 0.55/21]

22...Bd7 0.91/20

[22...b5∓ -0.37/23 keeps the upper hand. 23.Nc3 Qc6]

23.g4? -2.51/21

[23.Nc3± 0.91/20 is forced if you want to stay better. Qc6 24.a4]

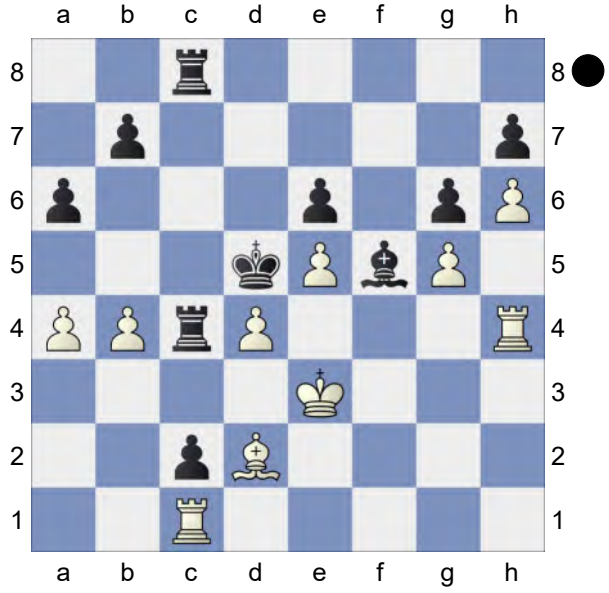
23...Bc6 24.gxf5 -3.34/20

[24.Rfe1 -2.08/19]

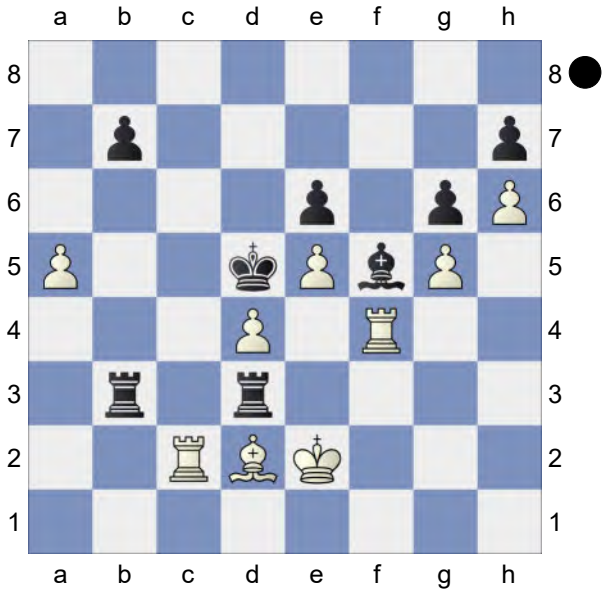
24...Qxe4 -1.51/19

[24...exf5-+ -3.34/20 And now ...c3! would win. 25.h4 a5 *(25...fxe4? 26.Be3-+; 25...Qxe4? 26.Qxe4 Bxe4 27.Be1-+)*]

25.Qxe4∓ Bxe4 26.fxe6 -2.74/23
[26.Be1∓ -1.58/20 might work better.]
26...fxe6-+ 27.Be3? -4.32/24
[27.Be1 -1.61/22]
27...c3 28.Rc1 c2 29.Rf4 Bg6 30.Kf2 Rac8 31.Bd2 Rc4 32.Ke3 Rdc8 33.h4 Bf5 34.h5 g6 35.h6? -5.26/21
[35.hxg6 -3.10/16 only move. Bxg6 *(35...hxg6 36.Rh4=)* 36.Kf3]
35...Kf7 36.Rff1 Ke8 37.Rf2 Kd7 38.Rf4 Kc6 39.a4 Kd5 40.Rh4 -7.80/19
[⌓40.a5 -5.06/17 Kc6 41.Ra1]



40...a5! 41.bxa5 Rxa4 42.Rf4 Ra3+ 43.Ke2 Rh3 44.Be3 Rc3 45.Bf2 Ra3 46.Kd2 Rhd3+ 47.Ke2 Rdc3
[47...Rxa5? 48.Rxf5 *(48.Rxc2 Rh3=)* 48...Rxd4 49.Rf7 Re4+ 50.Kd3 Rxe5 51.Rd7+ *(51.Rxb7 Ra3+ 52.Kd2 Rf5+-; 51.Rxc2 Rxg5 52.Rd7+ Ke5+-; 51.Rxh7 Ra3+ 52.Kd2 Rf5+-)* 51...Kc6 52.Rxh7 *(52.Rxc2+? Kxd7 53.Bd4 Ra3+ 54.Bc3 Rc5-+)* 52...Ra3+ 53.Kxc2+-]
48.Kd2 Rc4 49.Be3 Rd3+ 50.Ke2 Rcc3 -3.16/20
[⌓50...Rb3 -7.84/17 51.Rf2 Rcc3]
51.Bd2 Rb3? 0.01/14
[Black should try 51...Rxd4-+ -3.79/23 52.Rxf5 Rcd3]
52.Rxc2=



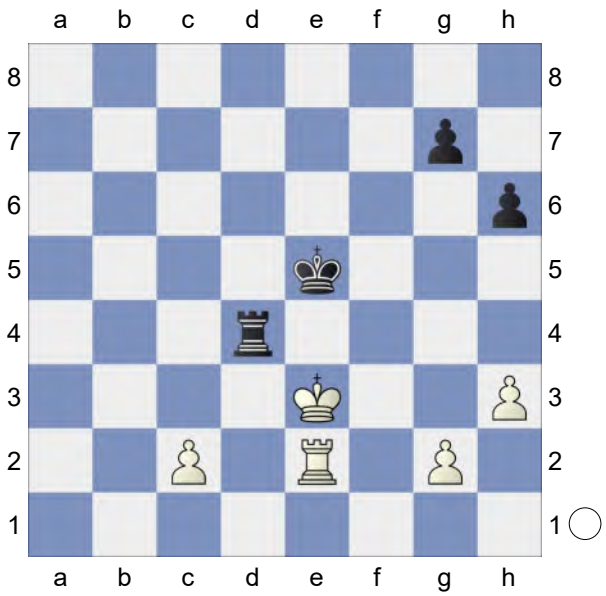
Rxd2+?? 6.99/21 53.Rxd2+-
[And not 53.Kxd2 Bxc2 54.Kxc2 Rb5=]
53...Bc2 Weighted Error Value: White=0.99/Black=0.93 **54.Rxc2**
1-0

177 **C11**
□ **Alekseenko,Kirill** **2671**
■ **Christiansen,Johan Sebastian**
FIDE World Cup 2019 (2.1) 13.09.2019
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Qb6 9.Qd2 Qxb2 10.Rb1 Qa3 11.Bb5! Nxd4 12.Bxd4 a6 13.Bxd7+ Bxd7** White has an edge. **14.Rb3 Qe7**
[14...Qa5? 15.Bb6+- *(15.Rxb7 Bb4∓)*]
15.Rxb7 Qd8! 16.0-0 Qc8! 17.Rfb1

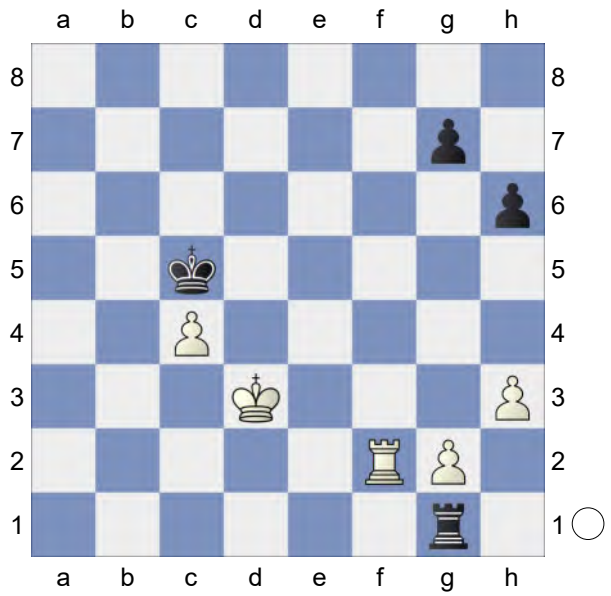
White has more active pieces. **17...Bc5 18.f5! Bxd4+N 19.Qxd4 Bb5!** Black is weak on the dark squares **20.Rb6**
[20.Nxb5!? axb5 21.R7xb5± *(21.R1xb5 0-0±)* 21...0-0 22.R1b2 25. Steinitz 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd-Steinitz 8.Nxd4 Qb6 - 11.Bb Qa6 23.h3 *(23.f6 Qa7 24.Qxa7 Rxa7 25.Rb8 Ra8 26.R8b4 Ra3 27.Rg4 g6 28.Rgb4 h5 29.Rb8 Rxb8 30.Rxb8+ Kh7 31.Rf8 Ra7 32.h4 g5 33.hxg5 Kg6 34.Rg8+ Kf5 35.Rg7 Kxe5 36.a4 Kf5 37.g6 Ra8* 1-0 Borgaonkar,A (2415)-Yaniv,Y (2365) Budapest SixDays 09 GM-B 2024 (2)) 23...Qa7 24.c3 h5 25.Rb7 Qxd4+ 26.cxd4 h4 27.Re7 exf5 28.Rbb7 Rxa2 29.e6 g6 30.Rbd7 Ra6 31.exf7+ ½-½ Aryan,C (2610)-Ioannidis,E (2459) 153/115 Novi Sad 2022]
20...0-0 21.a4! Qc4 22.Nxb5 Remove Defender **22...axb5 23.Qxc4 bxc4 24.fxe6 fxe6±** Endgame KRR-KRR **25.Ra1 Ra5! 26.Rxe6 Rfa8 27.Rd6 Rxa4 28.Rxa4 Rxa4 29.Rxd5=** KR-KR. White is a pawn up. **29...Ra2 30.e6 Kf8! 31.Rd2 Ke7 32.Re2 Ra1+ 33.Kf2 Rh1 34.h3 Rd1 35.Kf3 h6** 1.12/23
[35...h5± 0.48/23]
36.Re4± Rd2 37.Rxc4 Kxe6 38.Re4+ Kf5 1.34/23
[⌓38...Kd6 0.91/24]
39.Re2! Rd4 2.08/25
[39...Rd7± 1.13/24 40.Re4 Rd2]
40.Ke3!+- Ke5

(Diagram)



41.Rd2 1.10/24
[41.c3!+- 2.14/24 Rd1 42.c4]
41...Rc4 1.60/24
[⌓41...Ra4 1.10/24]
42.Kd3± Kd5 2.10/25
[42...Ra4± 1.22/23 43.c3 h5]
43.Rf2 Rd4+ 44.Kc3 Re4 1.66/25
[44...Rc4+± 0.98/24 45.Kd2 Rd4+ 46.Kc1 Rh4]
45.Rd2+ 1.28/25
[45.Rf5++- 1.66/25 Ke6 46.Rf2]
45...Kc5 46.Kd3 Against Re3+ **46...Kd5 47.c3** 1.07/24
[⌓47.Rd1 1.54/25]
47...Re1 48.c4+ 0.97/24
[48.Ra2 1.40/25]
48...Kc5 49.Rf2 Rg1 2.15/28
[49...Rd1+± 0.86/26 50.Ke3 Kxc4]

(Diagram)



50.Ra2? 0.12/27
[White must play 50.Ke4!+- 2.15/28]
50...Rd1+= 51.Ke4 Rd6 52.Rc2 Rg6 53.Ke5 Rf6 54.Rc3 Rg6 Prevents Rg3.
55.g3 Rf6 0.70/23
[Black should play 55...Ra6= 0.11/24]
56.g4 0.10/25
[White should try 56.Rd3!± 0.70/23]
56...Rf7 57.Ke4 g6 58.Ra3 And now Ra6 would win. **58...Kxc4 59.Ra6 Re7+ 60.Kf4! Rf7+ 61.Ke5! Rf3 62.h4**
[Don't play 62.Rxg6 Rxh3 63.Ra6 Rh4=]
62...Re3+ 63.Kf6 0.01/27
[63.Kf4± 0.48/30 Rh3 64.Rxg6 Rxh4 65.Kg3]
63...Rh3 The position is equal. **64.Kxg6 Rxh4 65.Kf5 Kd5** White really could win this. Weighted Error Value: White=0.13 (very precise) /Black=0.14 (very precise) **66.Ra7**
½-½

178 **C11**
□ **StrongKhaganaK1ller** **2670**
■ **Resha1988** **2729**
Blitz 19.02.2025
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.a3 b5** 0.54/17
[8...cxd4= 0.16/17 9.Nxd4 Be7]
9.Bd3± Qb6 0.75/20
[9...Be7± 0.36/17 was preferable.]
10.0-0± cxd4 White is slightly better.
[10...Bb7 11.Kh1 h6 12.f5 0-0-0 13.Ne2 c4 14.fxe6 fxe6 15.Bg6 Ndxe5 16.Nxe5 Nxe5 17.Nf4 Nxg6 18.Nxg6 Rg8 19.Qg4 Bd6 20.Rf7 Rde8 21.Bf4 Qxd4 22.Bxd6 Qxg4 23.Rc7+ 1-0 Kopriva,M (2483)-Vereggen,L (2436) Budva 1963 (9)]
11.Bf2 b4N 1.79/18
[11...Bc5± 0.42/20
A) 12.Na2 Qc7 13.b4 *(13.Nc1 Be7 14.Nb3 g6 15.Nfxd4 Nxd4 16.Bxd4 Nc5 17.Nxc5 Bxc5 18.c3 Bd7 19.Qe1 h5 20.Qe3 Ba7 21.Rac1 a5 22.Kh1 a4 23.Qg3 h4 24.Qe3 Qb7 25.Kg1 Bxd4 26.Qxd4 Kf8 27.f5 gxf5* 0-1 Namitbir,S (2367)-Galaktionov, A (2316) Abu Dhabi op-A 30th 2024 (8) *)* 13...Bb6 14.Qd2 f6 15.Rae1 0-0 16.Bg3 f5 17.Bf2 Bb7 18.Nc1 Rfc8 19.Nb3 Nf8 20.Kh1 Qf7 21.Rc1 Rc7 22.Nfxd4 Nxd4 23.Bxd4 Bxd4 24.Nxd4 Rc4 25.Bxc4 dxc4 26.Nf3 Bd5 1-0 Ritzerveld,N (2074)-Kviriashvili, A (1795) EU-ch U12 31st 2023 (2);
B) 12.Nb1 b4]
[11...Nc5 12.Nxd4 Nxd3 13.Qxd3 Nxd4 14.Qxd4 Qxd4 15.Bxd4 Bd7

16.Ne2 Rc8 17.c3 Be7 18.Kf2 0-0 19.Ke3 a5 20.Rfc1 Rfe8 21.Kd2 b4 22.cxb4 axb4 23.a4 b3 24.Rxc8 Rxc8 25.Bc3 Bc5 26.Bd4 ½-½ Krzywda,A (2173)-Badacsonyi,S (2289) Titled Tuesday intern op 14th Jan Early blitz 2025 (9)]

12.axb4+- Hoping for b5. **12...Bxb4**

13.Na4 Prevents Nc5. **13...Qc7** 1.85/20

[13...Qb7± 1.31/18 keeps fighting.]

14.Nxd4

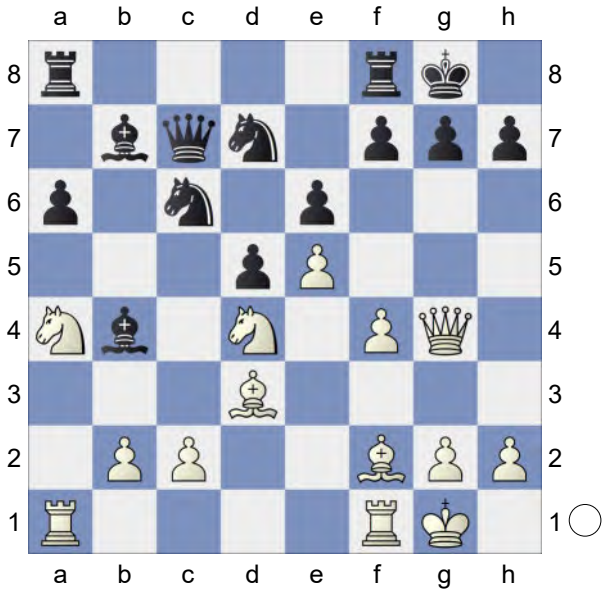
[14.Bxd4 Nxd4 15.Nxd4 Nc5=]

14...Bb7 2.19/19

[14...Nxd4± 1.43/19 15.Bxd4 0-0]

15.Qg4 0-0 2.26/18

[15...g6± 1.48/18]



16.Nf3 0.85/17

[16.c3!+- 2.26/18]

16...h6 2.06/17

[16...Be7± 0.85/17]

17.Bh4? 0.48/20

[17.c3+- 2.06/17]

17...Be7± 18.Bxe7→ White attacks.

18...Nxe7 19.Nh4 -0.48/17

[19.Nd4± 0.48/20]

19...d4 -0.11/16

[19...f5∓ -0.48/17 20.exf6 Discovered Attack Rxf6]

20.Rae1 Rae8 21.b3 Nc5? 2.88/24

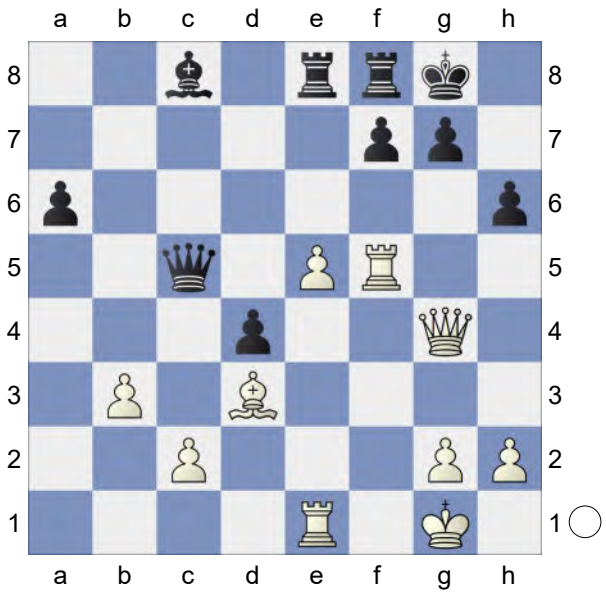
[21...Nd5= -0.17/18]

22.Nxc5+- Qxc5 23.f5 exf5 24.Nxf5 Nxf5 25.Rxf5 0.96/17

[25.Qxf5+- 2.41/20 g6 Deflection 26.Qf2]

25...Bc8 1.41/21

[Better is 25...Qc3 0.96/17 26.Qg3 Bd5]



26.Re4? -4.91/22 **Bxf5** -2.26/19

[⌓26...g6 -4.91/22 27.Ref4 Bxf5 28.Rxf5 Rxe5 29.Rxe5 Qxe5]

27.Qxf5-+ g6 28.Rg4? -3.67/24

[28.Qf4 -1.92/20]

28...Qxe5

[28...Rxe5? is the wrong capture. 29.Rxg6+ Kh7 30.Rc6+ Rxf5 31.Rxc5+-]

29.Qxe5 Rxe5 30.Rxd4 -4.55/21 Endgame KRR-KRB

[⌓30.Bxa6 -3.01/23 Ra8 31.Bd3]

30...a5 31.Kf2 Kg7 32.g3 Rc8 33.h4 Rc6 34.c4 -7.83/24

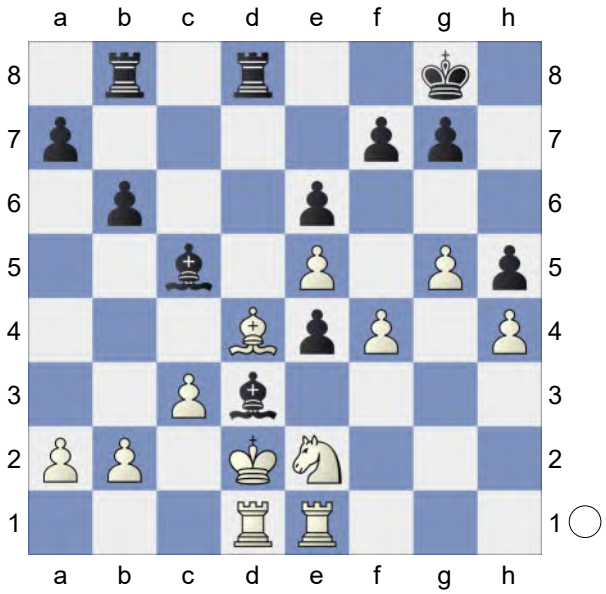
[⌓34.Kg2 -4.29/23 Re1 35.h5]

34...Rf6+ 35.Kg2 Rb6 36.Be4 Rxb3 37.Bd5 Re7 38.c5 Rb2+ 39.Kh3 Rc2

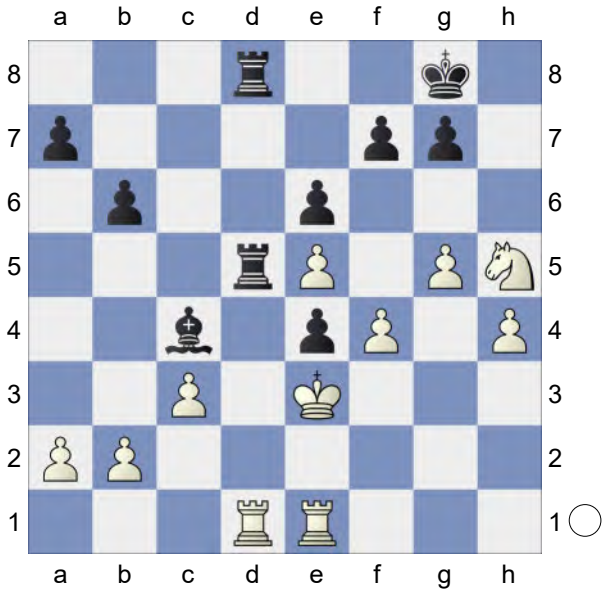
40.c6 Rc7 41.h5 gxh5 42.Ra4 Rc5 43.Bf3 Ra7 44.Rh4 Rb5 45.Ra4 Rb4 46.Ra3 a4 and ...Rb3 would now be decisive **47.Rb3 Rxb3** Black mates. **48.Be4 Rb4 49.Bd5 a3 50.Ba2 Rc7 51.Bd5 Rb2 52.g4 a2 53.gxh5 a1Q 54.Bg2 Qg1 55.Kh4 Qh2+ 56.Kg4 Qxg2+ 57.Kf5 Rb5+ 58.Kf4 Rb4+ 59.Ke3 Qd5 60.Kf2 Qc4 61.Kg3 Rb3+ 62.Kh2 Qc2+ 63.Kg1** Never resign too early! Weighted Error Value: White=0.84/Black=0.74 **63...Rb1# 0-1**

179 **C11**
□ **Adhiban,Baskaran** **2670**
■ **Korobov,A.** **2711**
11th World Teams 2017 (7.3) 24.06.2017
[Kitty Kat]

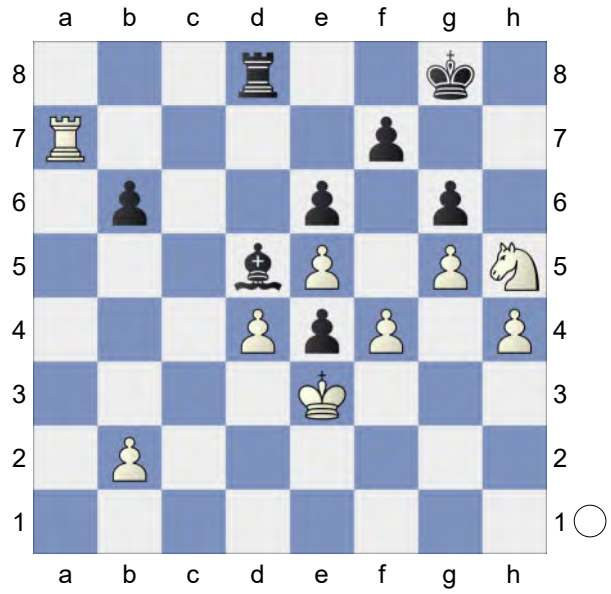
C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Be7 8.Qd2 0-0 9.dxc5 Nxc5 10.0-0-0 Qa5** 0.77/19
[10...Rb8= 0.15/18 keeps the balance.]
11.Kb1!± Rd8! White is slightly better.
12.Nd4! Bf8 1.21/19
[12...Qc7!± 0.46/18]
13.g4 0.36/22
[13.h4!± 1.21/19]
13...Bd7± 14.h4 Rab8! 15.Nce2 Qxd2 16.Rxd2 Ne4 17.Rd1 Nxd4 18.Bxd4 0.16/18
[Better is 18.Nxd4± 0.68/17 a5 19.Bd3]
18...b6= 19.Bg2 Bb5 20.Rhe1 Bb4 0.47/21
[20...Bc5= 0.08/20]
21.c3± Be7 22.Bxe4 dxe4 23.g5! Bd3+ 24.Kc1 h5 25.Kd2 Bc5



26.Ke3! and Ng3 would now be decisive Loses the game. **26...Rbc8?** 2.00/22
[26...g6± 0.47/22]
27.Bxc5+- Rxc5 3.01/19
[27...bxc5± 1.56/22 28.Ng3 Rb8]
28.Ng3 Rcd5 3.92/19
[⌓28...Rc4 2.43/20 29.Nxh5 Rd5]
29.Nxh5
[29.Nxe4? Bxe4 30.Rxd5 Bxd5-+]
29...Bc4 5.57/21
[29...Rc5 3.63/18 was called for. 30.Ng3 Rcd5]



30.Rd4! White is clearly winning.
30...Bxa2 7.22/21
[⌓30...Rc8 4.74/18 31.b3 *(31.Kxe4 Rb5±)* 31...Rxd4 32.cxd4 *(32.Kxd4 Ba6±)* 32...Bb5]
31.Ra1
[Weaker is 31.Kxe4 Bb3±]
31...Rxd4 32.cxd4 Bd5 33.Rxa7 g6

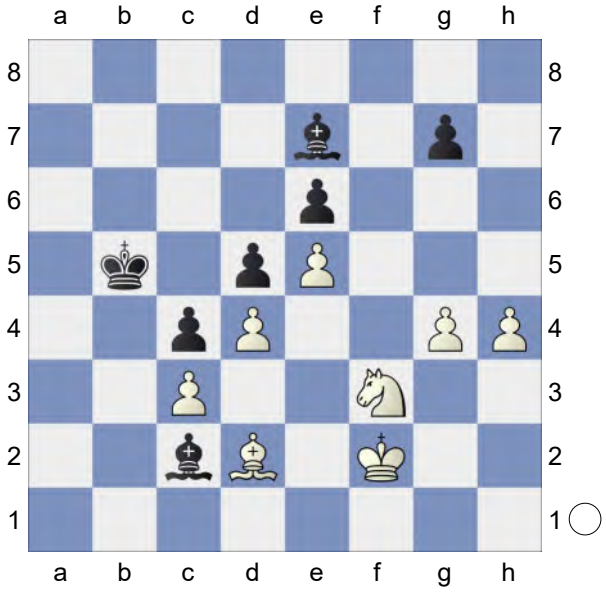


34.Rd7! Decoy **34...Rc8N**
[34...Rxd7 35.Nf6+]
Weighted Error Value: White=0.09 (flawless) /Black=0.81 **35.Nf6+**
1-0

180 **C11**
□ **Bartus-chess** **2670**
■ **Superfm1** **2694**
Blitz 26.02.2025
[Kitty Kat]

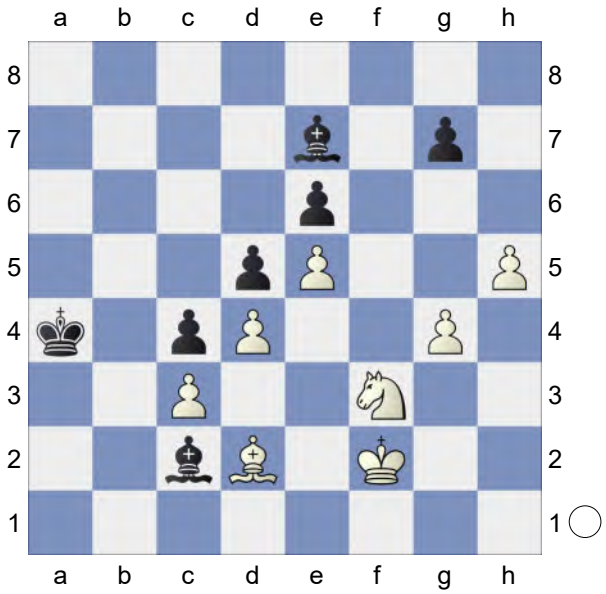
Blitz 3min C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 Kacheishvili,G: 'Inf 83/261' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Qb6 8.a3** 0.13/22
[8.Na4± 0.59/22 Qa5+ 9.c3]
8...a6 0.58/23
[8...cxd4= 0.13/22 9.Nxd4 Nxd4 10.Bxd4 Bc5 11.Bxc5 Nxc5]
9.Na4N 0.16/22
[9.dxc5± 0.58/23 Bxc5 10.Na4 Qa5+ 11.b4 Qxa4 12.bxc5 Qa5+ 13.Qd2 0-0 14.Qxa5 Nxa5 15.Bd3 Nb8 16.0-0 Bd7 17.Rfb1 Bc6 18.Nd4 Nd7 19.Nb3 Nxb3 20.cxb3 Bb5 21.Rd1 Rfc8 22.Rac1 Bxd3 23.Rxd3 Rc7 24.b4 Rac8 25.Rdc3 Nb6 26.Bd4 Nc4 27.a4 1-0 Ostensen,N (1914)-Kurth,W (1743) Wch6 sf7 corr ICCF 1965 (8) Ra8 28.Rf1 Rf8 29.b5 axb5 30.axb5 Ra8 31.Rc2 Ra5 32.Rb1 Kf8 33.b6 Rc8 34.Rcc1 Ke8 35.Ra1 Rca8 36.Rxa5 Rxa5 37.c6 bxc6 38.Rb1 Nxb6 39.Bxb6 Rb5 40.Rxb5 cxb5 41.Kf2 b4 42.Ke3 1-0 Mukovskiy,P (1914)-Meyer, M (1743) Krefeld op 2023 (8)]
[9.Be2 cxd4 10.Nxd4 Nxd4 11.Bxd4 Bc5 12.Na4 Qa5+ 13.c3 Bxd4 14.Qxd4 Qc7 15.b4 0-0 16.0-0 b6 17.Nb2 Bb7 18.c4 Rfc8 19.Rac1 a5 20.Bf3 axb4 21.axb4 Ra2 22.h3 Nf8 23.Ra1 Rca8 0-1 Miladinovic,I (2495)-Kacheishvili,G (2583) 83/261 Leon 2001]
9...Qa5+= 10.c3 c4 The position is equal. **11.b4! cxb3 12.Qxb3 b5 13.Nb2 Nb6 14.Bd3 Nc4 15.Kf2** -0.48/17
[15.Nd1= 0.27/16]
15...Be7 0.26/15
[15...Bxa3? 16.Bxc4 dxc4 17.Qxa3+-]
[15...Qc7∓ -0.48/17]
16.a4! Rb8
[16...Nxe3?! 17.axb5 Ng4+ 18.Kg3±]
17.axb5 Qxb5 18.Qxb5 axb5 19.Rhb1
[19.Nxc4!? bxc4 20.Be2=]
19...Bd7 1.00/21

[19...Na3= -0.03/19 20.Rc1 Bd7]
20.Nxc4± bxc4 2.48/21
[Black should play 20...dxc4± 0.66/20 21.Be4 0-0]
21.Rxb8++- Nxb8 22.Ra8? 0.09/19
[22.Bxh7!+- 2.21/20 aiming for Ra8!. Bc6 *(22...Rxh7? 23.Ra8+-)* 23.Bc2]
22...0-0!= 23.Bc2 Nc6 Wards off Ra7
24.Rxf8+ Kxf8 25.g4 Na7 26.f5
[26.Bxh7 g6 27.h4 Kg7-+]
26...Nb5 27.Ba4 Ke8 28.Bxb5 Bxb5 29.fxe6 fxe6 Endgame KBB-KBN
30.Ng5 Kd7 31.Nxh7 Ba4 32.Bg5 Ba3 33.Bd2 Bc2 34.Ng5 Be7 35.Nf3 Kc6 0.54/22
[35...Be4= 0.06/23 might be stronger.]
36.h4 Kb5 1.51/22
[36...Bd1= 0.20/25 remains equal.]



37.h5 0.07/21
[37.Bg5!± 1.51/22 Bf8 38.Bd8]
37...Ka4

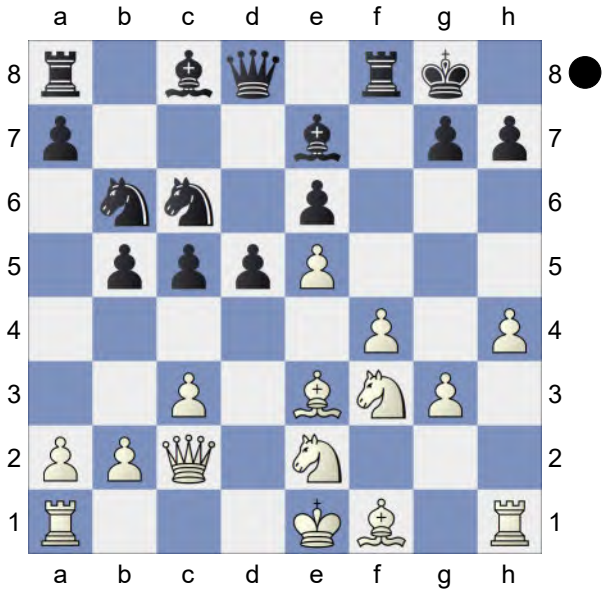
(Diagram)



38.g5 0.10/26
[White should play 38.Bg5!± 1.05/24 Bf8 39.Bd2]
38...Kb3 39.g6 Bf5 40.Kg3 Kc2 41.Bg5 Bf8
[41...Bxg5? 42.Nxg5 Kxc3 43.h6 gxh6 44.g7+-]
42.Bd2 Kd3 43.Kf4 Be7 44.Kg3 Be4 45.Be1 Ke2 46.Bf2 Bf8
[46...Bxf3? too greedy. 47.h6 gxh6 *(47...Bh4+? 48.Kxh4 gxh6 49.g7+-)* 48.g7+-]
47.Ng1+ -2.19/27
[47.Ng5= 0.01/25 and White has nothing to worry. Bf5 48.Nf7]
47...Kd2-+ 48.Nh3 Kxc3 49.Nf4 Bf5 Hoping for ...Kd2. **50.h6?** -8.64/19
[50.Be3 -1.91/22]
50...gxh6 51.Nh5 Never resign too early! Weighted Error Value: White=0.49/Black=0.26 (precise) **51...Bxg6**
0-1

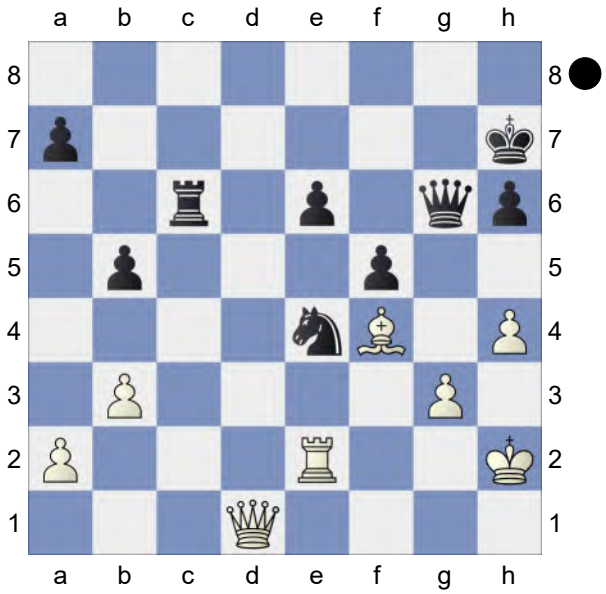
181 **C11**
□ **Anton Guijarro,David** **2669**
■ **Kramnik,Vladimir** **2753**
CrunchLabs Masters PlayIn (7) 17.07.24
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Ne2 Be7 8.c3 0-0 9.Be3 f6 10.g3**
[10.exf6 Nxf6 11.dxc5 Ng4 12.Bg1 e5 13.fxe5 Ngxe5 14.Nxe5 Nxe5 15.Ng3 Bh4 16.Qd4 Qe8 17.0-0-0 Bg5+ 18.Be3 Bf6 19.Qxd5+ Be6 20.Qxb7 Rb8 21.Qa6 Kh8 22.Ne4 Bg4 23.Nxf6 Rxf6 24.Rd6 Nf7 ½-½ Hafiz,A (2251)-Wijerathne,M (1440) Asia-Oceania Uni rapid 2022 (5)]
10...fxe5N
[10...Qb6 11.Qd2 fxe5 12.dxe5 Rd8 13.Bf2 *(13.Bh3 d4 14.Bf2 d3 15.Nc1 Nf8 16.b3 Qa6 17.a4 b5 18.0-0 Bb7 19.Ra2 b4 20.c4 Na5 21.Be3 Nxc4 22.bxc4 Qxc4 23.f5 exf5 24.Bxf5 Qd5 25.Bxd3 c4 26.Bb1 Qc6 27.Qe1 Ng6* 0-1 Kamsky,G (2730)-Ding,L (2628) 111/125 Moscow 2011 *28.Raf2 Nxe5 29.Ne2 Rd3 30.Ned4 Qd5 31.Bxd3 Nxd3 32.Qd2 Nxf2 33.Rxf2 Rf8 34.h4 c3 35.Qd3 Bc5 36.Bf4 Rd8 37.Be5 Re8 38.Bf4 Re1+ 39.Rf1 Qxf3 40.Qxf3 Bxd4+* 0-1 9.Nd2 a5/ 14.Qc2 Ngf6 15.Bd3 (2730)-Winter (2628) Moscow IT 3rd 1936*)* 13...d4 14.Bg2 dxc3 15.Qxc3 Qa6 16.Rd1 b5 17.0-0 Bb7 18.Nd2 Rac8 19.Ne4 b4 20.Qe3 Qxa2 21.b3 Qa6 22.Ra1 Qb6 23.Rfd1 Nf8 24.Rxd8 Nxd8 25.Nd2 3 ½-½ Macs,O (2054)-Zoll,D (2239) corr VWC8 /pr 2015]
11.dxe5 The position is equal. **11...b5 12.h4 Nb6 13.Qc2** -0.57/23
[13.Bf2= 0.14/22]



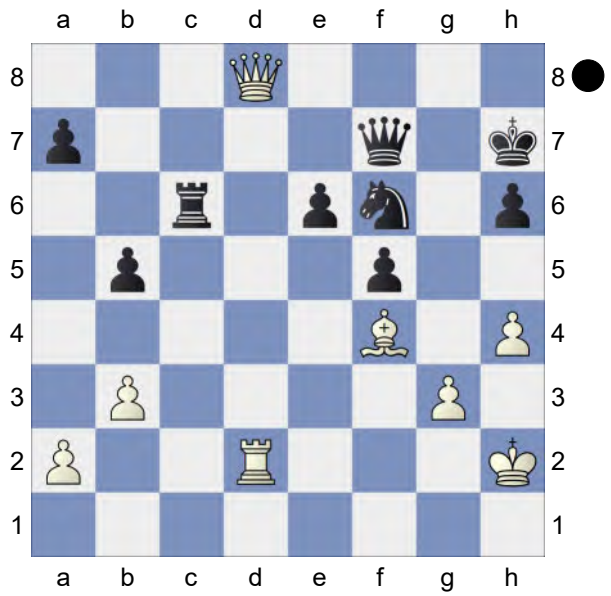
13...d4 0.01/21
[13...Nc4!∓ -0.57/23 14.Bf2 d4]
14.cxd4? -2.79/20
[14.Rd1= 0.01/21 and White has nothing to worry.]
14...Nb4-+ 15.Qd1 -3.06/24
[⌓15.Qe4 -2.06/21 Qd5 16.Qxd5 N6xd5 17.Kd2]
15...Nc4 16.Bc1 Bb7 17.Bg2 Be4 -1.27/18
[17...cxd4-+ -2.15/20 18.a3 *(18.Nexd4 Qb6∓)* 18...Qa5 19.Nexd4 Nc2+ Discovered Attack (Double Check) 20.Ke2 Nxa1 21.Nxe6 Rad8 22.Nxd8 Rxd8]
18.0-0∓ Bc2 Prevents b3. Black is much more active. The white rooks are passive. **19.Qe1 cxd4?** 0.98/20
[19...Bf5!∓ -1.36/20 stays on course. 20.Qd1 Nd5 *(20...Nc2 21.g4=)*]
20.Nfxd4 0.04/23
[20.Nexd4± 0.98/20 Hoping for Kh2!. Bc5 21.Kh2 Bxd4 22.Qxb4]
20...Bc5 0.62/22
[20...Bd3!= 0.04/23]

21.Kh2 0.17/20
[21.a3!± 0.62/22 deserves consideration.]
21...Bxd4= 22.Nxd4
[22.Bxa8? Nd3-+ *(22...Bxb2 23.Bxb2 Nd3 24.Qc3±)*]
22...Qxd4 23.Qxb4
[23.Bxa8 Bd3 24.Qxb4 Bxf1∓]
23...Be4 0.64/20
[23...Rac8= 0.11/22]
24.Bxe4 0.01/18
[24.Bh3± 0.64/20]
24...Qxe4 25.Qe1 Repels Qe2+. White is weak on the light squares **25...Qf5**
26.Kg1 -0.55/21
[White should play 26.Rg1= 0.01/23]
26...Qg4 0.01/24
[Black should try 26...Rac8∓ -0.55/21]
27.b3 Nb6 28.Kg2
[28.Qf2 simplifies Rad8 29.Qf3 Qxf3 30.Rxf3 Rd1+ 31.Rf1]
28...Rac8 With the idea ...Nd5. **29.Be3 Nd5 30.Rc1** Repels Rc2+ **30...Rxc1 31.Bxc1 Rc8 32.Qd1?** -1.97/22
[32.Bd2∓ -0.37/19]
32...Qf5!-+ 33.Rf2? -3.05/22
[33.Qe1∓ -1.51/20]
33...Qe4+? -0.08/21
[33...Qb1-+ -3.05/22 34.Rf1 Qe4+ *(34...Qxa2+ 35.Kh3∓)* 35.Kg1 Rc3]
34.Kh2= g6 35.f5⇄ White has counterplay **35...gxf5 36.Bh6 Qxe5 37.Re2 Qf6 38.Bg5 Qg6 39.Re5?** -2.77/21
[39.Qe1= -0.19/21 Kf7 40.Qa5]
39...h6-+ 40.Bd2 -3.31/20
[⌓40.Bf4 -2.30/21]
40...Kh7 -1.78/19
[⌓40...Nf6 -3.31/20 41.Kh3 Qg4+ 42.Qxg4+ fxg4+ 43.Kg2 Rc2]
41.Bf4? -3.35/23
[41.Be1 -1.78/19]
41...Qf7 -1.58/25
[41...Qg7-+ -3.35/23 42.Qd2 *(42.Rxe6 Nxf4 43.Rd6 Qb2+ 44.Rd2 Qf6∓)* 42...Nxf4 43.gxf4 Qe7]
42.Qe1? -3.71/23
[42.Re2∓ -1.58/25]
42...Rc6 43.Re2 Nf6 44.Kh3 Ne4 45.Kh2 Qg6? -0.76/22
[45...Qh5!-+ -2.44/19 and ...Qf3 should not be overlooked 46.Qd1 Nf6]
46.Qd1? -2.93/21
[46.Qa5∓ -0.76/22]

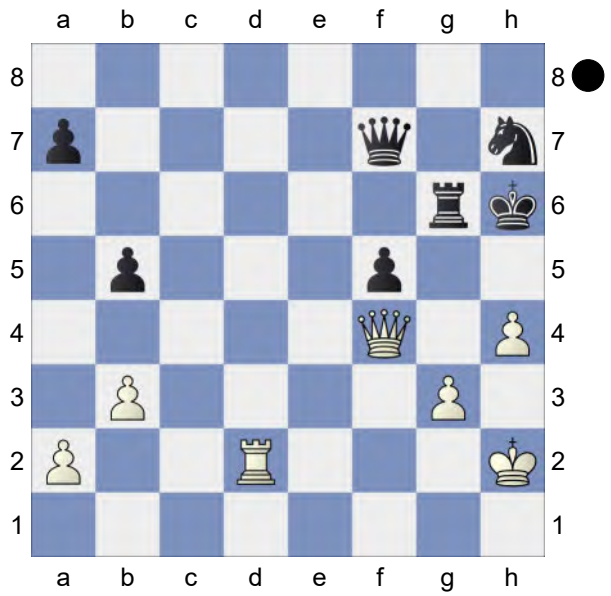


46...Nf6? -0.86/22
[46...Qg7!-+ -2.93/21 47.Qd8 e5 48.Bxe5 Qxe5 49.Qd7+ Kg8 50.Qd8+ Kg7 51.Qd7+ Kf8 52.Qd8+ *(52.Qxc6? Qxg3+ 53.Kh1 Qf3+ 54.Kg1 Qxe2-+)* 52...Qe8 53.Qxe8+ Kxe8]
47.Qd8 -1.62/22
[47.Qd3∓ -0.86/22]
47...Qf7 48.Rd2? -5.26/21
[48.Kh3∓ -1.04/20 is tougher.]

(Diagram)



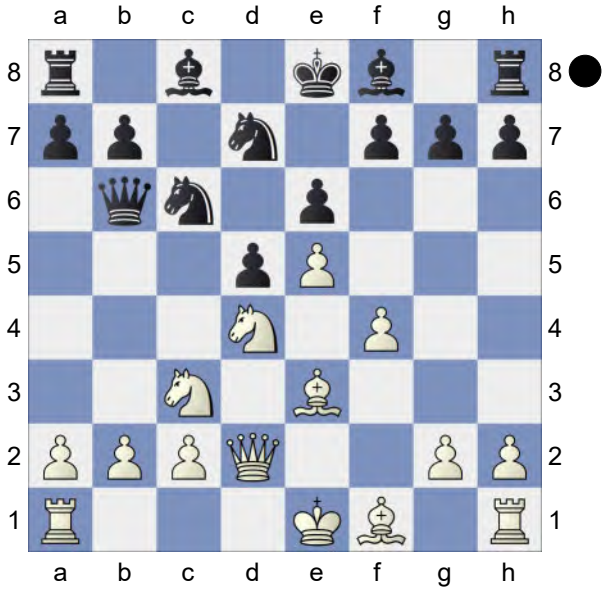
48...e5! 49.Bxh6 -8.90/19
[⩲49.Be3 -4.21/21 Rc7 *(49...Ng4+ 50.Kh3∓)* 50.Qd3]
[49.Re2 Ng4+]
49...Kxh6 50.Qh8+ Nh7 51.Qxe5 Rg6? -1.11/19
[51...Qe6-+ -5.38/21 has better winning chances. 52.Qxb5 Qe4 *(52...Nf6? 53.Re2-+)*]
52.Qf4+ -3.41/24
[52.Rd5∓ -1.11/19]



52...Kg7! 53.Qe5+ -3.61/20
[53.Rc2 -2.42/20 keeps fighting. Qe6 54.Rc7+ Kh8 55.Rxa7]
53...Nf6 54.Rd6? -8.18/23
[54.Kh3 -2.20/20]
54...Kh7 55.Qxf5 Weighted Error Value: White=1.15/Black=0.67 **55...Ng4+ 0-1**

182 **C11**
□ **ice2breaker** **2669**
■ **AngryBirds2000** **2659**
Blitz 19.10.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Qb6 9.Qd2**



Nxd4 1.23/19
[9...Qxb2= 0.15/19 remains equal. 10.Rb1 Qa3 11.Ncb5 Qxa2 12.Rd1 Rb8 13.Nc7+ Kd8 14.Ncb5 Nc5 15.Bd3 Nxd4 16.Bxd4 Bd7 17.Nd6 Bxd6 18.exd6 Rc8 19.0-0 Nxd3 20.Qxd3 Qxc2 21.Qa3 Bc6 22.f5 e5 23.d7 Bxd7 24.Bxa7 Rc6 25.Qa5+

Kc8 1-0 Chigaev,M (2621)-Murzin,V (2623) Julius Baer Play In rapid 2023 (6.32)]

10.Bxd4± Nc5N 1.94/18

[10...Qc7± 1.00/18]

[10...Bc5 11.Na4 Qc6 12.Nxc5 Nxc5 13.Qa5 Nd7 14.Bb5 Qxc2 15.0-0 0-0 16.Rac1 Qe4 17.Qc3 Nb6 18.b3 Bd7 19.Bd3 Rac8 20.Bxe4 Rxc3 21.Bxh7+ Kxh7 22.Rxc3 Bc6 23.f5 1-0 De Firmian,N (2570)-Cornelison,P (2215) San Mateo op 1992]

[10...Qc6 11.Bb5 Qc7 12.0-0 a6 13.Be2 Bb4 14.Nxd5 exd5 15.Qxb4 Qxc2 16.Rf2 Qg6 17.f5 Qg5 18.Bf3 Nb8 19.Bxd5 Nc6 20.Bxc6+ bxc6 21.Qd6 Bb7 22.f6 gxf6 23.exf6 1-0 Koutsin,S (1616)-Khlebovich,A (1024) FIDE World Cup 2013 (1)]

[10...Qa5 11.a3 a6 12.Bd3 Bc5 13.Bxc5 Qxc5 14.Qe2 b5 15.Qf3 Bb7 16.Ne2 g6 17.c3 Qb6 18.Nd4 Nc5 19.g4 Ne4 20.Rf1 h5 21.h3 hxg4 22.hxg4 0-0-0 23.0-0-0 Rh2 24.Bxe4 dxe4 25.Qg3 0-1 Liang,H (1646)-Li,Y CHN-ch sf (Women) 2023 (7)]

11.0-0-0 1.34/18

[11.a3+- 1.94/18]

11...Bd7 White is clearly better. **12.Qe3 Rc8 13.f5** 0.70/18

[13.Kb1± 1.37/17]

13...Qa5 1.89/18

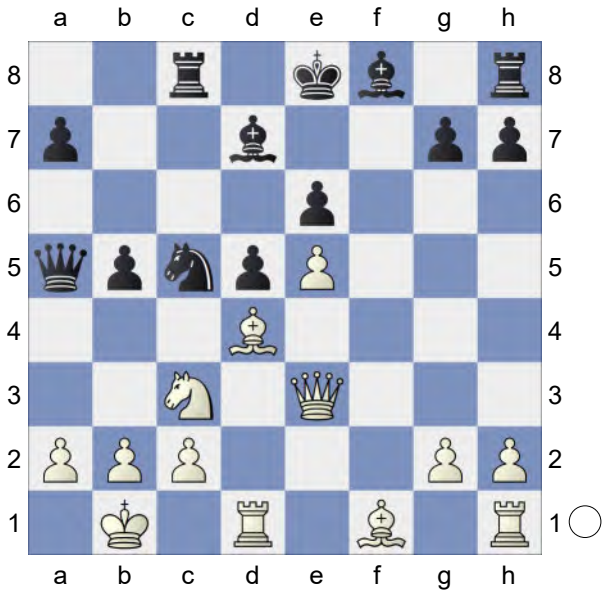
[13...exf5± 0.70/18 14.Nxd5 Qc6 15.Bxc5 Bxc5]

14.Kb1+- b5 15.fxe6 1.48/19

[15.a3+- 1.89/21]

15...fxe6±

(Diagram)



16.Bd3 0.54/21

[White should play 16.a3!+- 1.96/19]

16...b4± and ...Nxd3 would now be decisive **17.Ne2** A mistake that costs the game. **17...Ba4?** 3.83/19

[17...Nxd3!= 0.28/18 18.cxd3 *(18.Qxd3 Be7∓; 18.Rxd3 Bb5=)* 18...Be7]

18.b3 1.84/17

[18.Qh3 Nxd3 19.b3 *(19.cxd3? Bc2+ 20.Kc1 Bxd3+* Discovered Attack (Check) *21.Kd2 Bf5-+; 19.Qxe6+ Kd8=)* 19...Nc5±]

[⌓18.Bxc5 3.83/19 Qxc5 *(18...Bxc5? 19.Qh3+-)* 19.Nd4]

18...Bb5? 3.62/20

[18...Nxd3 1.84/17 was worth a try. 19.Qxd3 *(19.Rxd3 Bb5±)* 19...Bb5]

19.Nf4 1.69/19

[⌓19.Qh3 3.62/20]

19...Kd7? 6.73/19

[19...Nxd3 1.69/19 20.cxd3 Bd7]

20.Qh3 3.26/20

[⌓20.Bxb5+ 6.73/19 Qxb5 21.Qh3]

20...Rc6? 10.96/21

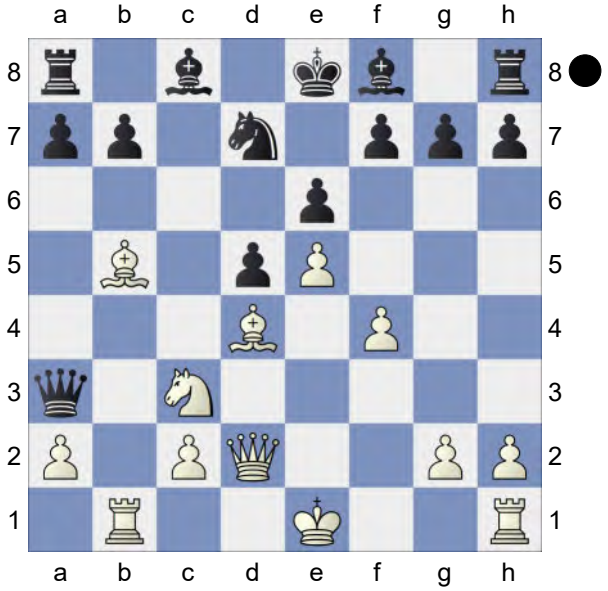
[20...Bxd3 3.26/20 21.cxd3 Rc6]

21.Bxc5 Hoping for Bxb5. White is clearly winning.

[21.Bxh7 Ra6 22.a4 *(22.Nxd5 Qxa2+ 23.Kc1 Kc8∓)* 22...Nxa4+-]
[21.Nxd5 Bxd3 22.Ne3 *(22.cxd3 Nxb3 23.axb3 Qxd5∓)* 22...Ra6±]
21...Bxc5 22.Bxb5
[Not 22.Bxh7 d4±]
[22.Nxd5 Bxd3 23.Rxd3 Kc8+-]
22...Qxb5 23.Rxd5+ Kc7 24.Nxe6+ Kb8 25.Rhd1 Rhc8 Weighted Error Value: White=1.12/Black=1.70 **26.Nd4 1-0**

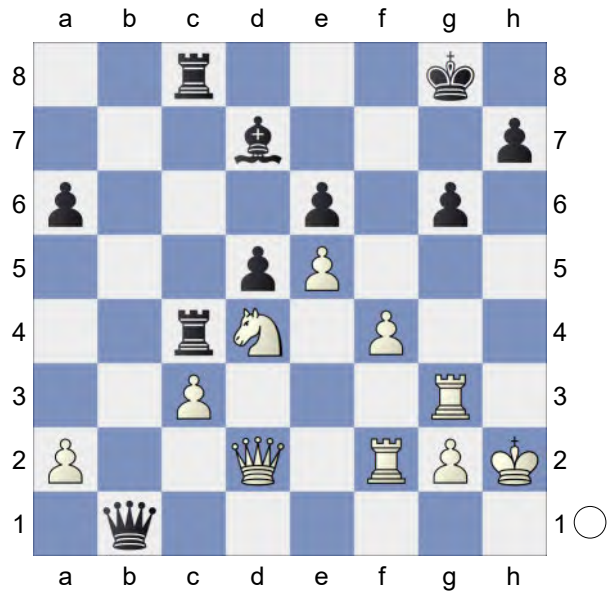
183 **C11**
□ **NameTheGame** **2669**
■ **ChainsOfFantasia** **2746**
Blitz 07.02.2025
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Qb6 9.Qd2 Qxb2 10.Rb1 Qa3 11.Bb5! Nxd4 12.Bxd4**



a6 13.Bxd7+ Bxd7 White is slightly better. **14.Rb3 Qe7!**
[14...Qa5? 15.Bb6+- *(15.Rxb7 Bb4∓)*]
15.Rxb7 Qd8 0.64/19
[15...Qh4+= 0.20/22 16.Qf2 Be7]
16.0-0± White has more active pieces.
16...Qc8 17.Rb3 0.18/18
[17.Rfb1± 0.58/20 might be stronger. Bc5 18.f5 Bb5 19.Nxb5 axb5 20.R7xb5 Bxd4+ 21.Qxd4 0-0 22.R1b2 Qa6 23.h3 Qa7 24.c3 h5 25.Rb7 Qxd4+ 26.cxd4 h4 27.Re7 exf5 28.Rbb7 Rxa2 29.e6 g6 30.Rbd7 Ra6 31.exf7+ ½-½ Aryan,C (2610)-Ioannidis,E (2459) 153/115 Novi Sad 2022]
17...Bc5= 18.Rf2
[18.Ne2 Bb5 19.Rc3 Bc4 20.Bxc5 Qxc5+ 21.Nd4 0-0 22.Rf2 Qb6 23.h3 f5 24.a3 g6 25.g4 Ra7 26.Kh2 Raf7 27.Rg3 fxg4 28.hxg4 Re8 29.Kh3 Bb5 30.Rb3 Qc5 31.Kg3 Qf8 32.Rc3 Qg7 ½-½ Gusain,H (2528)-Harshavardhan, G (2417) IND-chT 44th 2025 (7.4)]
18...Qc6N
[18...0-0 19.f5 Bxd4 20.Qxd4 Qc4 21.Qd2 Qc7 22.f6 Qxe5 23.Nd1 Rfb8 24.Re3 Qd6 25.Rh3 Rb1 26.Rf1 e5 27.Qg5 Qf8 28.Rh4 g6 29.Ne3 Rab8 30.Qxe5 Rxf1+ 31.Kxf1 Re8 32.Qd4 Qa3 33.Kf2 ½-½ Hakobyan,E (2409)-Sahakyan,A (2380) ARM-ch 1st League 85th 2024 (7)]
19.Ne2 f5! is in the air **19...0-0 20.h3 Rfc8 21.Rg3 g6 22.h4 Qb6?** 1.85/17
[22...Be7= 0.00/19 23.Rc3 Bb4 Skewer]
23.Kh2 1.10/17
[Better is 23.h5+- 1.85/17]
23...Bxd4 1.81/22
[23...Qc7± 1.10/17]
24.Nxd4+- Rc4 25.c3 and h5 should not be overlooked This costs Black the

game. **25...Rac8?** 2.64/20
[25...h5= 0.01/19 and Black is okay.]
26.h5 Qb1? 5.16/19
[26...Qc7 2.05/19]
27.hxg6 fxg6

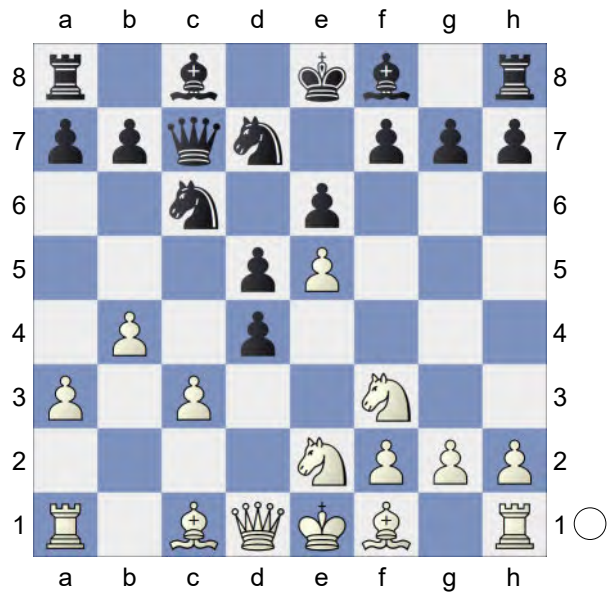


28.f5! exf5 29.e6 Be8 21.54/25
[⌓29...Bxe6 4.28/20 30.Nxe6 Rh4+ 31.Rh3 Rxh3+ 32.Kxh3 Qe4]
30.Nxf5 R8c7 31.Qxd5 8.12/22
[⌓31.Nh6+ #15/18 Kg7 32.Qg5 Qe4 33.Qf6+ Kxh6 34.Rh3+ Qh4 35.Rxh4+ Rxh4+ 36.Qxh4+ Kg7 37.Qf6+ Kh6 38.Rf3 Rxc3 39.Rxc3 Kh5 40.Rh3+ Skewer Kg4 41.Rh4#]
31...Qe4 32.Qd6 White threatens Nh6+ and mate. **32...Rxc3 33.Nh6+ Kg7** Weighted Error Value: White=0.62/ Black=1.36 **34.Qf8#**
1-0

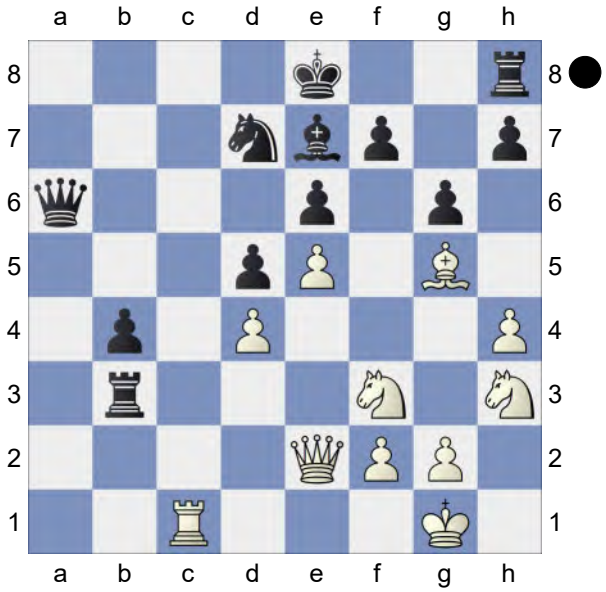
184 **C11**
□ **Robson,Ray** **2668**
■ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2817**
ch-USA 2017 Saint Louis USA (11.4)
[Kitty Kat,TA]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 Van Delft & Ris: 'TAMING THE FRENCH DEFENCE In practice White often has lots of problems keeping Black's typical French counterplay under control, but in the following game highly prophylactic play is followed by a deadly attack.' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.Nf3 Qa5** 0.48/18
[7...Qb6= -0.01/18]
8.a3± cxd4 9.b4
[9.Nexd4 Ndxe5 10.Nxe5 Nxe5∓]
9...Qc7
[9...Qb6 10.cxd4 a5 11.b5 Qxb5 12.Nc3 Qb6 13.Rb1 Qd8 14.Bd3 Be7 15.Nb5 h6 16.Qc2 Nb6 17.0-0 Nc4 18.Bxc4 dxc4 19.Bf4 0-0 20.Qxc4 Na7 21.Nd6 b5 22.Qc5 Bd7 23.d5 exd5 24.Qxd5 1-0 Caruana,F (2736)-Melkumyan,H (2620) Moscow Aeroflot op-A 11th 2012 (6)]

(Diagram)



White is slightly better. **10.cxd4**
[10.Nexd4 Ndxe5 *(10...Ncxe5 11.Bb2∓)* 11.Bf4 Bd7 12.Nxc6 Nxf3+ 13.Qxf3 Qxc6∓]
10...b5 11.Nf4
[11.Bd2 Qb6 12.Rb1 Be7 13.Bc3 f6 14.Nf4 fxe5 15.dxe5 Nf8 16.Nd4 Nxd4 17.Bxd4 Qb7 18.Bd3 g6 19.0-0 Bd7 20.Qg4 a5 21.Rfc1 axb4 22.axb4 Ra4 23.Bc5 Bxc5 24.Rxc5 Qb6 25.Rcc1 Qd4 1-0 Morozevich,A (2763)-Fridman,D (2660) Petrov Mem Final 2012 (7.4)]
11...Qb6 0.72/21
[11...a5!= 0.28/20]
12.Rb1N
[12.Qd3 a5 13.Qxb5 axb4 14.Qxb6 Nxb6 15.Bb5 Bd7 16.0-0 Nxe5 17.Bxd7+ Nexd7 18.Re1 Be7 19.Nd3 0-0 20.Nfe5 Nxe5 21.dxe5 bxa3 22.Be3 Nc4 23.Bd4 Rfb8 24.f4 h5 25.f5 exf5 26.Nf4 Bg5 0-1 Doraszelski,A (2171)-Bukal,V (2356) Seville op 50th 2025 (8)]
12...a5 13.bxa5 Rxa5 0.83/21
[13...Qxa5+± 0.34/22 14.Bd2 b4]
14.Bd3 Ba6 15.0-0 and Ng5 would now be decisive **15...Bxa3 16.Be3 Be7** 0.51/20 Against Ng5
[16...h6= 0.14/20]
17.Qd2 -0.98/22
[17.Nh5± 0.51/20 keeps the upper hand.]
17...g6 -0.40/22
[17...b4∓ -0.98/22 And now ...0-0 would win. 18.Bxa6 Qxa6]
18.Rfc1 -0.89/20
[18.h4∓ -0.40/22]
18...b4∓ 19.h4 Ra3! 20.Bxa6! Qxa6 21.Nh3 Na5 Black is more active. This costs White the game. **22.Bg5?** -2.45/21
[Better is 22.Qd1∓ -0.42/22]
22...Nb3-+ 23.Rxb3 Rxb3 24.Qe2 -3.12/20
[⌓24.Bh6 -2.18/20]

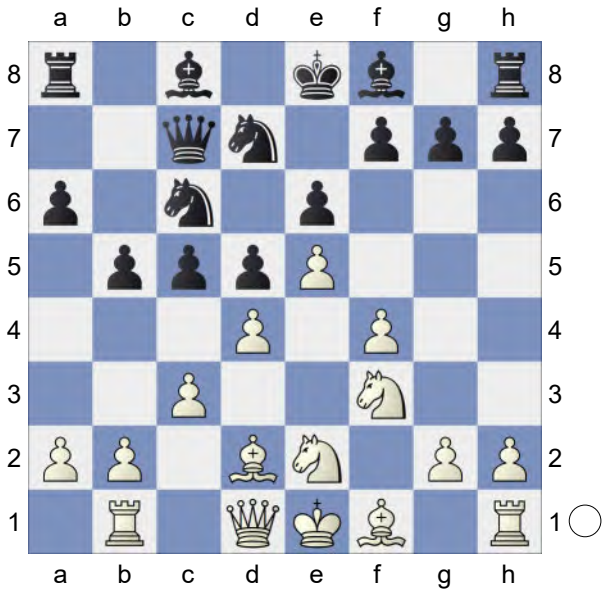


24...Qa8!
[24...Qxe2 25.Rc8+]
25.Qb5? -4.31/23
[25.Qd2 -2.65/18 was necessary.]
25...Rc3 26.Rxc3 bxc3 27.Bxe7 Qa1+
[Less strong is 27...Kxe7 28.Qb4+ Ke8 29.Qxc3∓]
28.Kh2 Kxe7 29.Qb4+ Kd8 30.Nfg5? -5.78/22
[30.Nhg5 -3.03/22 Qb2 31.Qd6

(31.Nxf7+? Ke8-+)]
30...Rf8 31.Nxh7 c2 32.Nxf8 c1Q
[32...c1B? 33.Nxd7 Kxd7 34.Qf8 Qxd4 35.Qxf7+ *(35.Qd6+ Ke8+-)* 35...Kd8 36.Qf8+ *(36.Qxe6 Bf4+ 37.g3 Bxe5+-; 36.Qxg6 Qxe5+ 37.g3 Ke7+-)* 36...Kc7 37.g3+-]
33.Nxd7 Kxd7
[33...Qh1+ 34.Kg3 Qhb1 *(34...Kxd7 35.Qb7+ Kd8 36.Qb8+ Kd7 37.Qb7+ Kd8 38.Qb8+ Kd7 39.Qb7+=)* 35.Qd6 Qc3+ *(35...Qxd4?* loses. *36.Nb6+ Ke8 37.Qb8+ Ke7 38.Nxd5+* Discovered Attack *Qxd5 39.Qxb1+-)* 36.Kh2-+]
34.Qd6+ Kc8 35.Qf8+ Kb7 36.Qxf7+ Qc7 37.Qxg6 Qxd4 38.f4 Qe4 39.Qxe6 Qg7 40.g4 Weighted Error Value: White=0.75/Black=0.08 (flawless)
40...Qc7
0-1

185 **C11**
□ **Robson,Ray** **2667**
■ **Akobian,Varuzhan** **2625**
St Louis Spring A (8.2) 09.03.2019
[Kitty Kat]

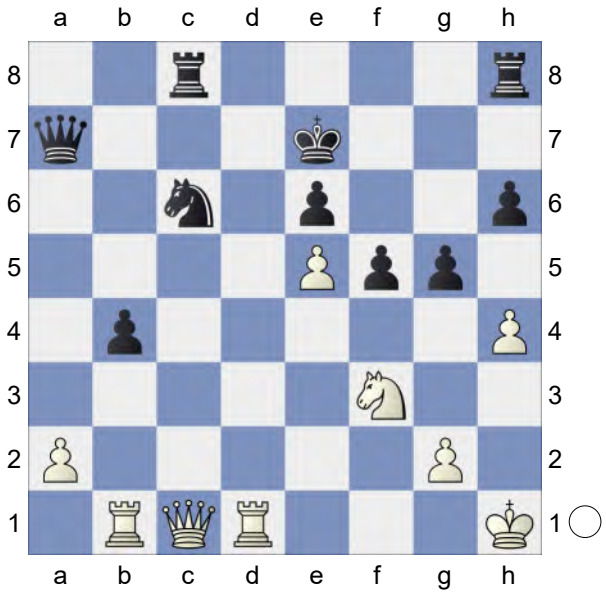
C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.Ne2 Qb6 9.Rb1** 0.02/19
[9.Qc1!± 0.50/18]
9...Qa5+
[9...f6 10.c3 Be7 11.Bf2 0-0 12.g3 cxd4 13.Nexd4 Nxd4 14.Bxd4 Bc5 15.Bxc5 Qxc5 16.Qd4 fxe5 17.Qxc5 Nxc5 18.Nxe5 Nd7 19.Nd3 e5 20.fxe5 Nxe5 21.Nxe5 Re8 22.Kd2 Rxe5 23.Bd3 Bf5 24.Rbe1 ½-½ Grischuk,A (2736)-Bluebaum,M (2670) World Rapid Team 2023 (9.3)]
[9...Be7 10.c3 0-0 11.h4 f6 12.h5 cxd4 13.cxd4 fxe5 14.fxe5 Ndxe5 15.Nc3 Nxf3+ 16.gxf3 Bf6 17.Ne2 Bd7 18.Rg1 Rae8 19.Qd2 Bh4+ 20.Kd1 Rxf3 21.Bh6 Rf7 22.Bh3 Ref8 23.b4 Kh8 24.Be3 0-1 Fiorito,J (2411)-Rasti,A (2185) Titled Tuesday intern op 21st Jan Late blitz 2025 (10)]
10.Bd2 -0.01/17
[10.Kf2± 0.37/18]
10...Qc7N 0.55/19
[10...Qxa2= -0.01/17 11.dxc5 *(11.b3 Nb4 12.Bxb4 cxb4 13.Ra1 Qb2 14.Kf2 f6 15.Ne1 Bc5 16.Kg3 fxe5 17.Nd3 exf4+ 18.Kf3 Bxd4 19.Nxb2 Ne5+ 20.Kxf4 0-0+ 21.Kg3 Bf2+ 22.Kh3 Ng4 23.Nd3 e5 24.Nxf2 Nxf2+ 25.Kh4 Nxd1* Chapter-Games Chapter 9 (2)*)* 11...Nxc5 *(11...Bxc5 12.b4±)*]
11.c3± b5



12.f5 0.13/19 **exf5= 13.Nf4 Nb6** 0.65/17
[13...Be7= 0.28/17]
14.Bd3± White has compensation.
14...g6 15.0-0 c4 0.82/18
[15...Be7!± 0.45/18]

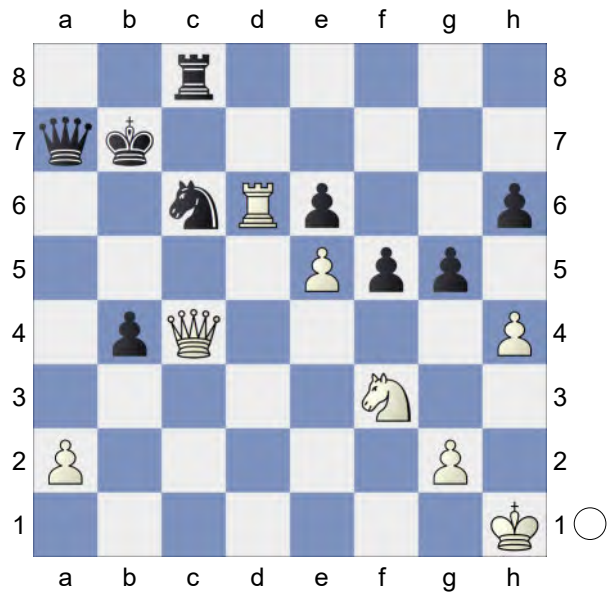
16.Bc2± Be7! 17.b3 0.21/17
[17.h4± 0.67/18 deserves consideration.]
17...Be6 0.79/17
[17...Nd8!= 0.21/17]
18.Qe1 0.31/17
[Better is 18.g4!± 0.79/17]
18...Qd7± 19.Qg3 Rc8 0.82/17
[19...Kd8± 0.34/18]
20.h4 White is more active. **20...a5** 1.15/16
[20...Kd8± 0.49/17]
21.Bd1 b4 22.Be2 -0.01/15
[22.Ng5!± 1.00/17]
22...h6!= 23.Rfd1 bxc3 1.18/19
[23...Kf8= -0.01/18 keeps the balance.]
24.Bxc3± Bb4 25.Bxb4 0.67/18
[25.bxc4+- 1.85/20 dxc4 26.d5 Nxd5 27.Nxd5 Bxd5 28.e6 Qa7+ 29.Kh2 Bxc3 30.Rxd5]
25...axb4± 26.bxc4 -0.01/17
[26.a3!± 1.12/19]
26...dxc4= White must now prevent ... c3. **27.d5** Deflection **27...Nxd5 28.Bxc4 Qa7+ 29.Kh1 Nxf4 30.Qxf4 g5! 31.Qc1 Ke7** 1.27/22
[31...0-0= -0.26/25 32.Bxe6 fxe6 33.hxg5 Nxe5 *(33...Qxa2 34.Qf4±)*]
32.Bxe6!± fxe6

(Diagram)



33.Qc4 Some like it hot This move loses the game for Black. **33...Rhd8** 6.94/21 Against Rd6
[33...Na5± 0.72/19 34.Qxb4+ Kf7]
34.Rxd8+- White is clearly winning.
[34.hxg5 Rxd1+ 35.Rxd1 hxg5=]
34...Kxd8 35.Rd1+
[35.Qxe6 Qd7 36.Qxh6 g4±]
[35.hxg5 hxg5 36.Qxe6 *(36.Nxg5 Qe3=)* 36...Kc7±]
35...Kc7 36.Rd6
[36.hxg5 hxg5 37.Rc1 Kb7 *(37...Rh8+ 38.Nh2=)* 38.Nxg5 Qd4 39.Qxd4 *(39.Nxe6? Rh8#)* 39...Nxd4=]
36...Kb7

(Diagram)

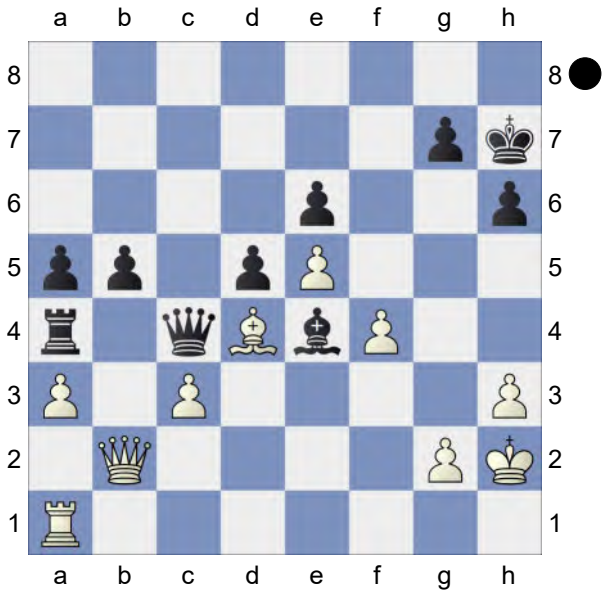


37.Nd4! Black must now prevent Rd7+.
[Weaker is 37.hxg5 hxg5 38.Nd4 *(38.Qxe6? perishes. Rh8+ 39.Nh2 Qf2-+; 38.Nxg5 Qa5±; 38.Rxe6 g4=)* 38...Qa3± *(38...Rh8+? 39.Kg1+-)*]
[37.Qxe6 Rc7±]
37...Qa4 38.Nxe6 Nc5+ would kill now.
[Worse is 38.Qxe6 Qd1+ 39.Kh2 Qg4= *(39...Nxd4 40.Rb6+ Ka7 41.Ra6+ Kb8 42.Qb6#)*]
38...Nxe5 Weighted Error Value: White=0.28 (precise) /Black=0.63
39.Qd5+
1-0

186 **C11**
□ **Murzin,Volodar** **2666**
■ **Sevian,Samuel** **2687**
FIDE World Rapid Team (9.2) 13.06.2025
[Kitty Kat]

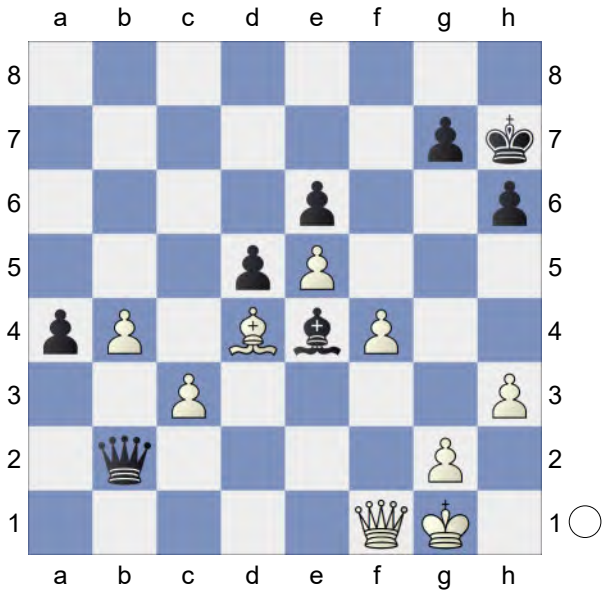
C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Be7 8.Qd2 a6 9.Bd3 cxd4**
[9...b5 10.a3 *(10.Qf2 b4 11.Na4 c4 12.Be2 0-0 13.b3 Bb7 14.0-0 Rc8 15.h3 Na7 16.Kh2 Nb5 17.Rac1 f6 18.Qe1 fxe5 19.fxe5 Qe8 20.Qg3 Qg6 21.Qxg6 hxg6 22.Nd2 Rxf1 23.Rxf1 Na3 24.Bg4 Nf8* 0-1 Dominguez Perez,L (2748)-Korobov,A (2650) Julius Baer GenCup Pl/In rapid 2024 (1)*)* 10...c4 11.Be2 Nb6 12.0-0 Bd7 13.Bd1 g6 14.h3 Qc7 15.Bf2 h6 16.Ne2 a5 17.c3 0-0-0 18.Bh4 Bxh4 19.Nxh4 Kb7 20.Nf3 Ra8 21.Bc2 Qd8 22.g4 Qe7 23.Ng3 b4 24.axb4 0-1 Buchicchio,G (2753)-Hantel,T (2753) Amsterdam VSB 1993 (3.1)]
10.Nxd4 Nc5 11.0-0 White is slightly better. **11...Nxd3N**
[11...0-0 12.Nxc6 bxc6 13.Qf2 23. Steinitz 7.Be3 Be7 8.Qd2-Steinitz 8.Qd2 a6 9.Bd3 cxd4]
12.cxd3 Bd7 13.Nf3 -0.02/18
[13.Nxc6± 0.47/18 Bxc6 14.Ne2]
13...0-0= 14.Qf2 f6 15.exf6 Rxf6 16.d4 Bd6 17.Qd2 Be8 18.Ne5 Rc8 19.Rac1 Rf8 20.Bf2 Nxe5 21.dxe5 Bb4 22.a3 Bxc3 23.Rxc3 Rxc3 24.bxc3 Qa5 Inhibits Bc5. **25.Ra1** -0.75/21
[25.Rb1= -0.23/21]
25...Bg6∓ 26.Bd4 White is weak on the light squares **26...Qa4 27.h3 Be4 28.Kh2 h6 29.Ra2 Qc4 30.Ra1 Qa4** 0.01/21
[30...b5∓ -0.71/25]
31.Ra2!= Qc4 0.01/23
[31...b5∓ -0.71/23]
32.Ra1! b5 33.Kg3 Rf5 34.Kh2 Kh7 35.Kg1 Rf7 36.Rf1 Qb3 37.Qc1 Rc7 38.Rf2 Rc4 -0.17/22
[38...Qa4∓ -0.73/23 ...Qxd4! would now be deadly. 39.Qa1 Rc4]
39.Qb2 -0.78/25
[39.Kh2= -0.17/22 remains equal.]
39...Qd1+ 40.Kh2 Qh5 -0.29/23

Black has more active pieces.
[Black should play 40...Ra4∓ -0.74/23]
41.Qe2 -0.78/24
[41.g4!= -0.29/23 Qg6 42.Qd2]
41...Qf7 42.Qe3! Qe7↑ Black is really pushing. **43.Ra2 Qf8 44.Ra1 Qc8 45.Qd2** -1.16/23
[⩲45.Ra2 -0.71/19]
45...Ra4 46.Qc1 a5 47.Qd2 Qc4 Loses the game. **48.Qb2** -5.22/24
[48.Qd1∓ -0.89/19 was the crucial defense.]



Prevents Qb3 **48...b4!-+ 49.axb4 Rxa1 50.Qxa1** Endgame KQB-KQB. White is a pawn up. **50...a4**
[50...axb4 51.cxb4 Qxb4 52.Qg1∓]
51.Kg1 -8.73/24
[51.Qxa4 Qe2]
[⩲51.f5 -4.37/20 Qe2 *(51...exf5 52.Qe1=)* 52.Qg1 Bxf5 *(52...exf5? 53.e6∓)* 53.Qf2]
51...Qe2 52.Qf1 Qb2

(Diagram)



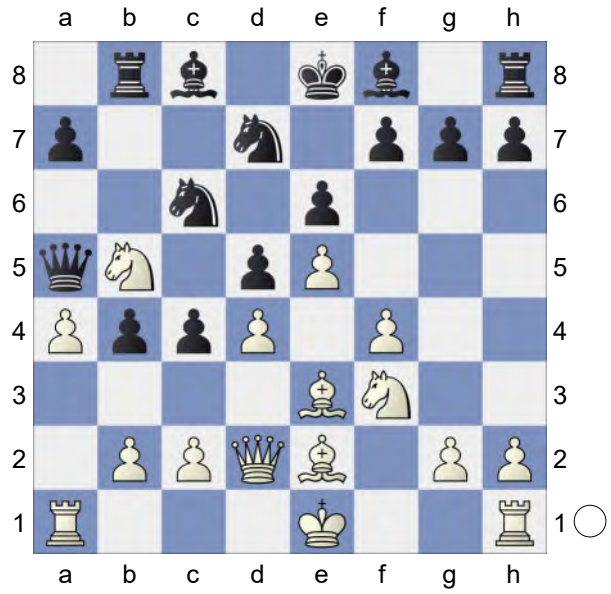
53.Qf2 a3 54.c4 Qc1+
[54...Qxb4? 55.c5∓]
55.Kh2 dxc4
[Less strong is 55...Qxc4 56.Qd2∓]
56.f5 Bxf5
[Not 56...exf5 57.e6 Kg8 58.b5∓]
57.b5 c3 58.b6 c2 59.b7 Qb1 60.Bb6 c1Q 61.b8Q Qh1+ 62.Kg3 Qb3+ 63.Qf3 Qxf3+ 64.Kxf3 Qd1+ 65.Kg3 Weighted Error Value: White=1.01/ Black=0.21 (precise) **65...a2**
0-1

187 **C11**
□ **Navara,David** **2665**
■ **Bluebaum,Matthias** **2662**
Titled Tue 15. Apr Early (6) 15.04.2025
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Rb8 8.Qd2 Qa5 9.Be2 b5** White is slightly better. **10.a4!**
[10.0-0 b4 11.Nd1 Ba6 12.f5 Bxe2 13.Qxe2 exf5 14.e6 fxe6 15.Bf4 e5 16.Nxe5 Ncxe5 17.Bxe5 Qb5

18.Qe1 Nxe5 19.Qxe5+ Be7 20.Qxg7 Rf8 21.Ne3 Qd7 22.Rae1 Rb7 23.Nxf5 Kd8 24.Rxe7 Qxe7 1-0 Mitusov,S (2463)-Astafurov,A (2263) Titled Tuesday intern op 07th Jan Early blitz 2025 (2)]

10...b4 11.Nb5 Hoping for f5!. **11...c4**



12.f5N -1.56/20

[12.0-0 a6 13.Nd6+ Bxd6 14.exd6 Nf6 15.Ne5 Nd8 16.Qe1 Chapter French Steinitz-7...Rb8 0-0 17.Qh4 Chapter French Steinitz-7...Rb8 Lifetime Repertoires: Sethuraman's 1. e]

12...Rxb5∓ Pin

[12...exf5?! 13.0-0=]

13.0-0 -1.63/20

[13.fxe6∓ -1.03/20 fxe6 14.Ng5]

13...Rb7-+ 14.fxe6 fxe6 15.Ng5 Nb6 16.Bg4? -2.51/18

[White should play 16.Qe1!∓ -0.52/17]

16...Nd8 -1.22/18

[16...Nxa4 17.b3± *(17.Nxe6 Bxe6 18.Bxe6 Nd8=)*]

[16...c3-+ -2.51/18 17.bxc3 Nc4]

17.Qf2 -1.80/19

[17.b3∓ -1.22/18]

17...Be7

[Worse is 17...Nxa4 18.b3±]

18.Bh5+? -3.06/18

[18.Qg3∓ -1.44/17]

18...g6 19.Nxh7 -3.85/20

[⌓19.Bg4 -2.47/18]

19...gxh5 20.Nf6+ -5.50/17

[20.Qg3 -2.79/19]

20...Bxf6 21.Qxf6 Rg8 22.Bg5 Nf7 23.Bh4 Na8 24.h3? -6.93/18

[24.Qf3 -3.64/17 Qb6 25.Bf2]

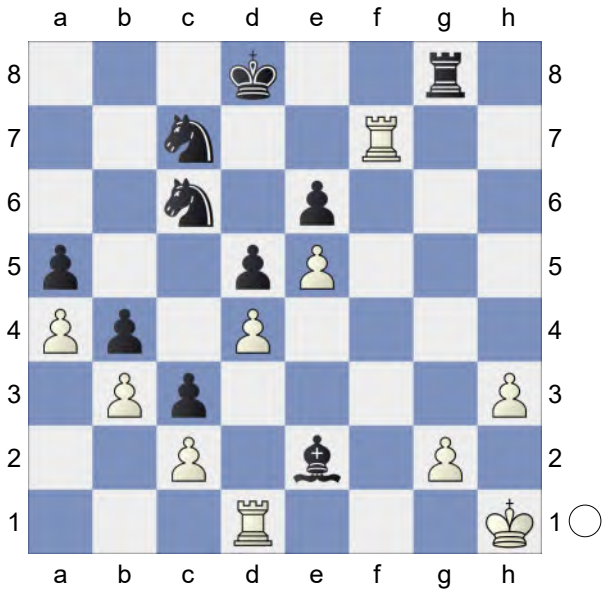
24...Qd8 25.Qf4 Ng5 26.Kh1 Rf7 27.Qxf7+ -7.01/5

[⌓27.Qe3 -4.91/17 Rfg7 28.Qe2]

27...Nxf7 28.Bxd8 Nxd8 29.Rf6 a5 30.Rh6 c3 31.b3 -8.60/22

[⌓31.bxc3 -4.99/20 Nc6 *(31...bxc3? 32.Rxh5 Nc6 33.Ra3-+)* 32.cxb4 axb4 *(32...Nxd4? 33.bxa5 Nc7 34.Rxh5-+; 32...Nxb4? 33.Rb1-+)* 33.Rxh5]

31...Nc6 32.Rd1 Nc7 33.Rxh5 Ba6 34.Rh7 Kd8 35.Rf7 Be2

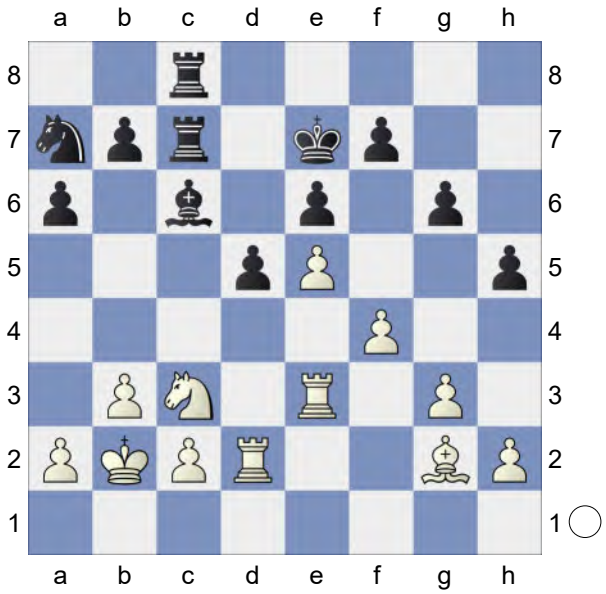


Deflection **36.Re1 Nxd4 37.Rf4 Nxc2 38.Rxe2 Na1 39.g4 Nxb3 40.h4 d4** Hoping for ...d3. **41.h5 d3 42.Re3 d2 43.Rd3+ Kc8** (→ ...Rh8) **44.Rc4** Weighted Error Value: White=0.98/

Black=0.31 **44...Rd8**
0-1

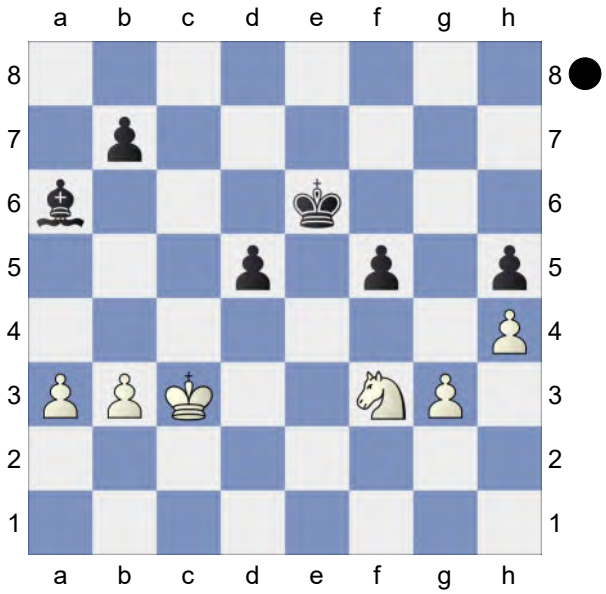
188 **C11**
□ **Bologan,Viktor** **2665**
■ **Bareev,E.** **2711**
TCh-RUS Dagomys RUS (3) 22.04.2004
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Bc5 9.Qd2 Bxd4 10.Bxd4 Nxd4 11.Qxd4 Qb6 12.Qxb6 Nxb6 13.Nb5 Ke7 14.0-0-0 Bd7 15.Nd4! h5**
[15...a6 16.Bd3 Bb5 17.Bxb5 axb5 18.Kb1 b4 19.Ne2 Nc4 20.Rd4 Rhc8 21.Rc1 Rc6 22.Re1 Rac8 23.Nc1 Rb6 24.Nd3 b3 25.cxb3 Nd2+ 26.Ka1 Rbc6 27.f5 Rc2 28.fxe6 fxe6 29.Rf4 g5 30.Rf6 0-1 5.♗e2 0-0-0 6.♗e3_54305 (2678)-Martin,P (2556) Fagernes GM Open 2014 (7.4)]
16.Bd3N
[16.g3 Na4 17.Bd3 Nc5 18.h3 Rag8 19.Rhf1 g6 20.Kd2 Be8 21.Rc1 Bd7 22.b4 Na4 23.c4 dxc4 24.Rxc4 Rc8 25.Rfc1 Rxc4 26.Rxc4 Nb2 27.Rc7 Nxd3 28.Kxd3 Rb8 29.b5 Kd8 30.Rc3 b6 ½-½ Chandler,M (2605)-Short,N (2665) Hastings 8899 1988]
16...g6 White is slightly better. **17.g3 a6 18.b3 Nc8 19.Kb2 Na7 20.Rhe1** 0.13/20 Black is weak on the dark squares
[20.a4± 0.51/19]
20...Rac8 21.Re3 Rc7 22.Rd2 Rhc8 23.Bf1 Be8 24.Bg2 Bd7 25.Ne2 Bb5 26.Nc3 Bc6



27.Ne2 Bb5 28.Nd4 Bd7 29.h3 Nb5 Threatens to win with ...Nxd4. **30.Ne2 Na7 31.Rc3 Bc6** 0.59/20
[31...Rxc3= -0.04/20 32.Nxc3 f6]
32.Ng1 0.01/20
[32.Nd4± 0.59/20]
32...a5 33.Bf1 Bb5 34.Rxc7+ Rxc7 35.Bg2 -0.01/24
[35.Bxb5!± 0.41/22 is more appropriate. Nxb5 36.Rd3]
35...a4= 36.Nf3 Nc6 37.a3 f6 38.exf6+ Kxf6 39.h4 Ne7 40.Nd4 Ba6 41.Bh3 axb3 42.cxb3
[42.Nxe6 looks sharper. Rxc2+ 43.Rxc2 bxc2 44.Nc7]
42...Nf5 43.Bxf5 gxf5 Endgame KRB-KRN **44.Nf3 Rg7! 45.Ng5 Rd7!** The position is equal. **46.Rd4 e5! 47.fxe5+ Kxe5 48.Nf3+ Kf6 49.Rb4 Re7 50.Rb6+ Re6 51.Rxe6+ Kxe6 52.Kc3**

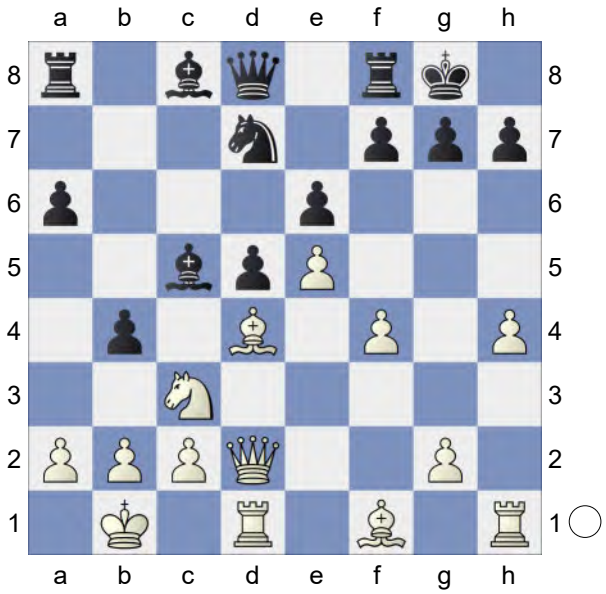
(Diagram)



f4! 53.gxf4 Kf5 54.Kd4 aiming for Ke3. **54...Kxf4 55.Ne5 Kg3** Weighted Error Value: White=0.11 (very precise) / Black=0.11 (very precise) **56.Nd7!**
[56.Kxd5 Kxh4 57.Ke4 Kg3∓]
[56.Ng6 Bb5 57.Ke3 *(57.Kxd5? loses. Bd3-+)* 57...Be8∓]
½-½

189 **C11**
□ **MartinLorenzini** **2663**
■ **Backo78king** **2689**
Blitz 05.11.2022
[Kitty Kat]

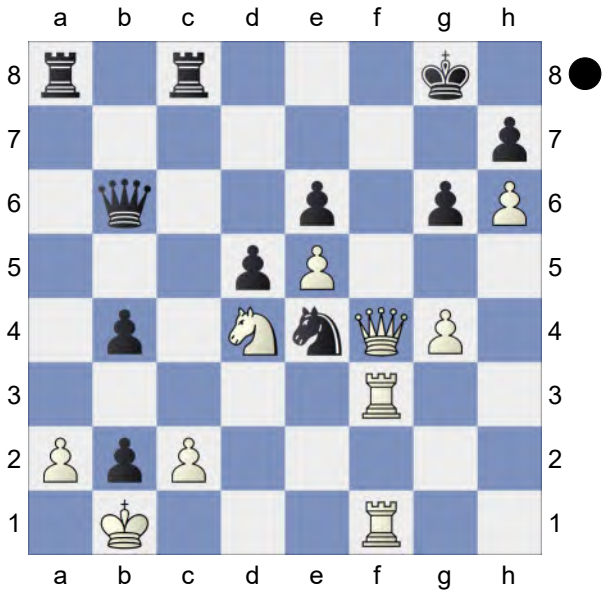
Blitz 3min C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 A very happy new year to everyone! And it is also the 200th anniversary special of CBM :) talk about a double blast :)! I am glad I got the opportunity to analyse one of the games of our Mozart and world champion Magnus Carlsen for this great edition! **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Bc5 9.Qd2 0-0 10.0-0-0 a6 11.Kb1 Nxd4 12.Bxd4 b5 13.h4 b4**



14.Ne2N -0.25/21
[Better is 14.Na4! 0.27/23 Bxd4 15.Qxd4 a5 *(15...Qa5 16.b3 Bb7 17.Rh3 Bc6 18.Nb2 Bb5 19.Bd3 Rac8 20.Bxb5 Qxb5 21.Nd3 a5 22.Rd2 Nc5 23.Nxc5 Rxc5 24.Rf3 Rfc8 25.f5 Qc6 26.Qf2 exf5 27.Rxf5 Qe6 28.Qf4 Qc6 29.Qf2 Qe6 30.Qf4* 1-0 Carlsen,M (2843)-Caruana, F (2773) Grand Slam Final 5th 2012 (6) *)* 16.Rh3 *(16.h5 Ba6 17.f5 Qc7 18.h6 Rfc8 19.Bxa6 Qxc2+ 20.Ka1 Rxa6 21.Qg4 g6 22.fxg6 Qxg6 23.Qf4 Rac6 24.b3 Rc2 25.g4 f6 26.exf6 Qxf6+ 27.Qxf6 Nxf6 28.Kb1 Ne4 29.Rhg1 Rh2 30.g5 Nc3+* ½-½ Tosic,M (2445)-Lempert,I (2495) Alushta1 1994 (9)*)* 16...Qc7 17.c3 Ba6 18.Bxa6 Rxa6 19.cxb4 axb4 20.Rc1 Qb8 21.b3 f6 22.Re3 fxe5 23.fxe5 Rf2 24.h5 h6 25.Qd3 Ra8 26.Qg6 Nf8 27.Qg4 Rf5 28.Qe2 Nd7 29.Rf1 Rxe5 30.Rxe5 ½-½ Zelcic,R (2561)-Dreev,A (2679) FIDE-Wch k.o. 1999 (1.2)]
14...a5= 15.Rh3 -0.51/21
[15.h5= -0.09/19 should be

considered.]
15...Ba6 -0.01/19
[15...Qc7∓ -0.51/21]
16.h5 -0.57/19
[16.f5!= -0.01/19]
16...Qb6 0.01/18
[16...Qc7∓ -0.57/19]
17.h6 -1.03/20
[17.Rg3= 0.01/18]
17...g6∓
[17...f5 feels hotter. 18.hxg7 Rf7 19.g4 fxg4 20.Rh6 Bxe2]
18.g4 Rfc8 -0.31/20
[18...a4∓ -0.83/19]
19.f5∓ a4 -0.21/16
[19...Rab8∓ -0.62/17]
20.Bxc5? -2.07/21
[20.Qf4= -0.21/16]
20...Nxc5-+ 21.fxg6? -3.35/19
[21.Bg2∓ -1.25/17 was worth a try.]
21...fxg6 22.Nd4? -6.31/22
[22.Bg2 -2.46/19 Bc4 23.Rg3]
22...Ne4 23.Qe3 Bxf1 24.Rxf1 a3 -2.54/21
[⌓24...b3 -5.38/21 25.cxb3 a3]
25.Rhf3 axb2? 0.01/19
[Black should play 25...g5-+ -3.22/22 Threatens to win with ...axb2. 26.Rf7 Rc7]
26.Qf4!=

(Diagram)

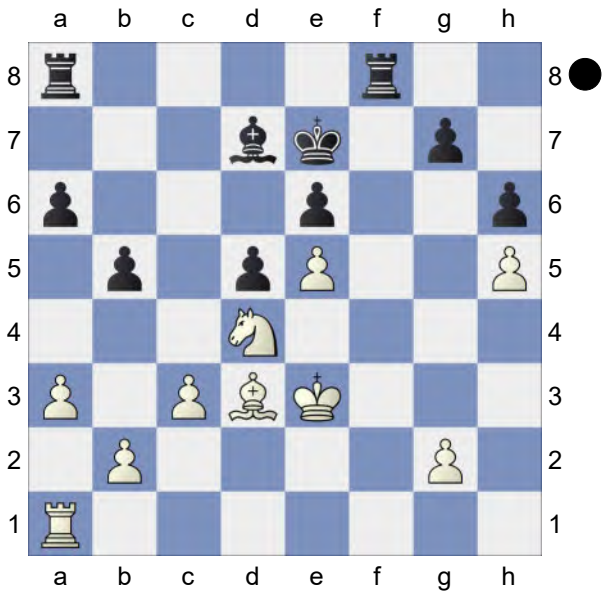


Threatening mate with Qf7+. **26...Qc7** 5.52/29
[Not 26...Qxd4 27.Qf7+ Kh8 28.Qg7#]
[26...Qa7= -0.01/26 and Black has nothing to worry. 27.Qf7+ Qxf7 28.Rxf7 Nd2+ 29.Kxb2 Nxf1 30.Rg7+ Kh8 31.Nxe6 Ne3]
27.Nxe6?? -#1/6
[27.Kxb2+- 5.52/29 b3 28.cxb3 *(28.Rxb3? loses. Qa7-+; 28.axb3 Nc3+-)*]
Quite a comeback for Black. Weighted Error Value: White=1.07/Black=1.20
27...Qxc2#
0-1

190 **C11**
□ **AKAR_BC** **2663**
■ **VanuatuLover** **2721**
Blitz 23.01.2025
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.Qd2 b5 9.dxc5**

Bxc5 10.Bd3 Qb6 11.Bf2 0-0
[11...h6 12.0-0 Bxf2+ 13.Rxf2 0-0 14.Re1 f6 15.exf6 Nxf6 16.Kh1 Bd7 17.Rfe2 Rac8 18.Nd1 b4 19.Nf2 a5 20.Rg1 Kh8 21.g4 Qc7 22.Rg3 Ng8 23.Nh3 Rf7 24.c3 bxc3 25.bxc3 Rcf8 26.Bc2 1-0 Garcia Ramos,D (2462)-Gatineau,Y (2367) Monteolivete op 3rd 2023 (2)]
12.0-0 aiming for Bxh7+!. White has an edge. **12...Bxf2+ 13.Qxf2N**
[13.Rxf2 Nc5 *(13...f6 14.exf6 Nxf6 15.h3 Nb4 16.a3 Nxd3 17.Qxd3 Nh5 18.Nxd5 Qc5 19.Nc3 Nxf4 20.Qe4 Ra7 21.Qd4 Qxd4 22.Nxd4 Raf7 23.Rd2 Bb7 24.Re1 Rd8 25.Ne4 Rfd7 26.Nf3 Rxd2 27.Nexd2 Nxg2 28.Rxe6 ½-½ Jones,B (2615)-Buhmann,R (2619) EU-chT (Men) 20th 2015 (5.4))* 14.Qe3 h6 15.Ne2 De la Hoz Contreras,T-8.d4 ♗d4 9. ♕d4 d6 URS-ch Soviet Union 1983]
13...Qxf2+ 14.Rxf2 Nc5 15.a3 Bd7 16.Bf1 Rfc8 17.Ne2? -2.11/19
[17.b4= 0.15/18 and White stays safe. Nb7 18.Nd1]
17...Ne4-+ 18.Ned4 Nxf2 19.Kxf2 f6 -1.40/18
[Better is 19...Nxd4-+ -1.81/17 20.Nxd4 f6]
20.c3 -3.30/19
[20.Nxc6∓ -1.40/18 Rxc6 *(20...Bxc6? 21.Bd3∓)* 21.Bd3]
20...fxe5 -1.59/18
[20...Nxd4-+ -3.30/19 21.Nxd4 Rf8]
21.fxe5 -2.06/18
[21.Nxc6∓ -1.59/18 was worth a try. Bxc6 *(21...Rxc6 22.Nxe5 Rc7 23.g3∓)* 22.Nxe5]
21...Nxd4 22.Nxd4 Kf8 23.Bd3 Ke7 24.Ke3 -2.38/18
[⌓24.Rh1 -1.66/18]
24...h6 25.h4 -2.24/17
[⌓25.Bg6 -1.63/18]
25...Rf8 -1.00/18
[25...g5-+ -2.24/17 is more deadly. 26.hxg5 hxg5]
26.h5∓

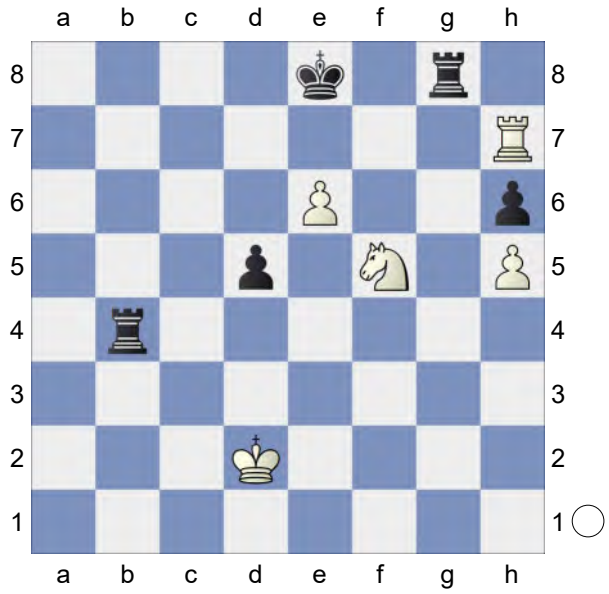


Rab8 -0.48/21
[26...a5!∓ -1.10/20 White must now prevent ...b4!. 27.g4 b4 28.axb4 axb4 29.Rxa8 Rxa8]
27.g4∓ Be8 -0.01/21
[27...a5!∓ -0.69/21]
28.Rg1 -0.60/21
[28.g5!= -0.01/21]
28...a5 0.01/20
[28...Rb6∓ -0.60/21]
29.b4 -0.52/22
[29.g5= 0.01/20]
29...axb4 30.axb4 Rc8 31.Ra1! Rc7 Dodges Ra7 **32.Ra6 Bd7**
[32...Rxc3?! 33.Rxe6+ Kf7 34.Rd6±]
33.Bxb5 Rxc3+ 34.Kd2! Rfc8 35.Bxd7 Kxd7= Endgame KRR-KRN
36.Rd6+ Ke7 37.Rxe6+ Kf7 38.Rd6 Rg3? 2.09/21
[38...Rh3∓ -0.31/24 39.e6+ Kf6 40.Rxd5 Ra8 41.Rf5+ Ke7 42.Rf7+ Ke8]
39.Rd7+? -0.01/22

[White must play 39.e6++- 2.09/21 Ke8 40.Nf5 Rxg4 41.Rd7]

39...Ke8⇄ Black has counterplay **40.Rxg7 Rc4 41.Nf5 Rgxg4 42.Rh7 Rxb4 43.e6 Rg8** #2/6

[43...Rgd4+= 0.13/21 44.Nxd4 Rxd4+ 45.Kc3 Re4]



Prevents Rh8 **44.Re7+** 10.00/5

[⌓44.Nd6+ #2/6 Kf8 45.Rf7#]

44...Kd8+- 45.Rd7+ Kc8 46.Ne7+ 8.45/5

[Inferior is 46.Rxd5 Re8=]

[⌓46.Nd6+ #18/24 Kb8 47.e7 Rbg4 48.e8Q+ *(48.e8R+ Rxe8 49.Nxe8 Rd4+ 50.Kc3 Rc4+ 51.Kd3 Rc1+-)* 48...Rxe8 49.Nxe8 Rg5 50.Nf6 Rf5 51.Rf7 *(51.Nxd5 Rxh5 52.Ke3 Rh4±; 51.Rxd5 Rxf6 52.Ke3 Kc7=)*]

46...Kb8 47.Nxg8 Never resign too early! Weighted Error Value: White=0.67/Black=0.51 **47...Re4**

1-0

191 **C11**

□ **Weiawaga** **2663**

■ **pawn_git** **2768**

Classical 03.02.2025

[Kitty Kat]

Rapid 30min+1sec C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Qb6 9.Qd2 Qxb2 10.Rb1 Qa3 11.Bb5! White has compensation.

11...Ndb8 1.35/18

[11...Nxd4= 0.01/20 12.Bxd4 a6 13.Bxd7+ Bxd7]

12.0-0± Bb4 1.33/20

[⌓12...Bd7 0.92/18]

13.Rb3 Qa5 White is better. **14.a3 Bxc3**

[14...Bc5 15.Qf2 Bb6 16.f5 exf5 17.Nxd5 Bxd4 18.Bxd4 Be6 19.c4 Nd7 20.Bc5 a6 21.Bb4 Qd8 22.Bd6 axb5 23.Nc7+ Qxc7 24.Bxc7 Bxc4 25.Rc3 0-0 26.Re1 Be6 27.Qb2 b4 28.axb4 Ra2 29.Qb1 0-1 Bologan,V (2700)-David,A (2579) FRA-chT Top 16 GP Haute 2005 (10)]

15.Rxc3 0-0 16.a4N 0.69/18

[16.Nxc6?! Nxc6 17.Bxc6 bxc6=]

[16.Rb1± 1.18/19]

[16.Bd3 Nxd4 17.Bxd4 Nc6 18.Bc5 Rd8 19.Qe1 Bd7 20.Bd6 g6 21.Qa1 Chess Informant Eco Chess Informant ECO C5 2006]

16...Qd8 1.36/17

[Black should play 16...a6± 0.69/18 17.Nxc6 *(17.Bxc6 Nxc6 18.Nxc6 bxc6±)* 17...Nxc6 18.Bxc6 bxc6]

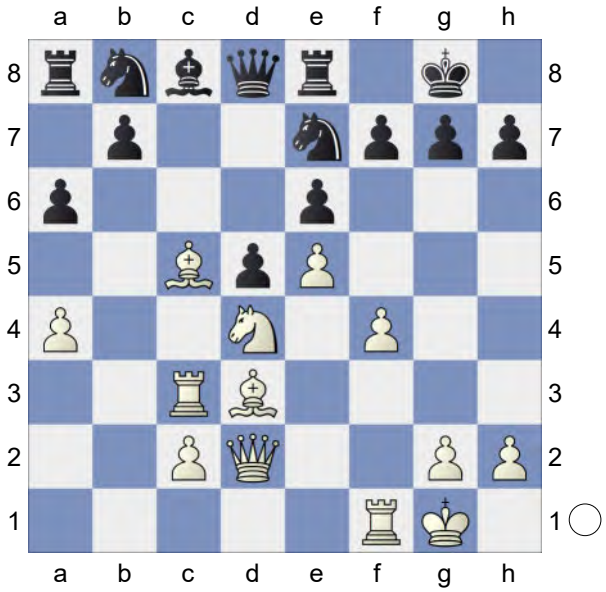
17.Bf2 1.00/17

[17.Nxc6 bxc6 18.Be2 *(18.Bxc6 Nxc6 19.Rxc6 Qd7=)* 18...Qa5=]

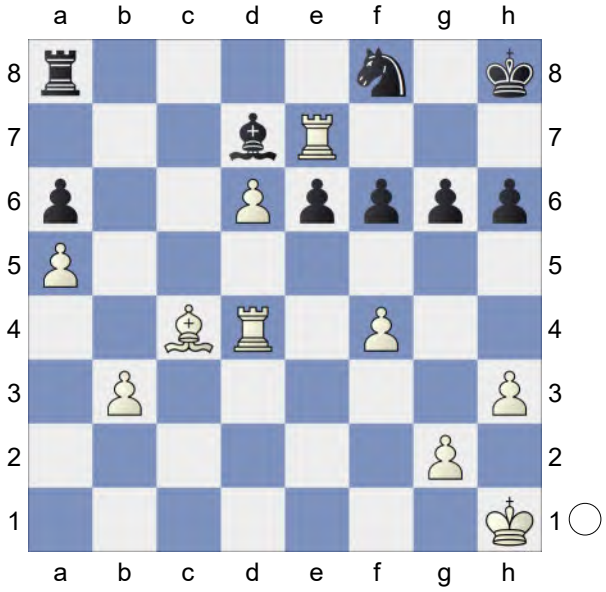
[White should play 17.Rf3 1.36/17]

17...Qa5 2.12/17

[17...a6± 1.00/17]
18.Nb3+-
[Stronger than 18.Nxc6 Nxc6 19.Bxc6 bxc6=]
18...Qd8 Black is weak on the dark squares **19.Bc5↑** Keeping Black busy.
19...Ne7 20.Nd4 a6 2.66/18
[⌓20...Bd7 1.84/17 21.Bd6 Bxb5 22.axb5 Nd7]
21.Bd3 A strong pair of Bishops.
21...Re8



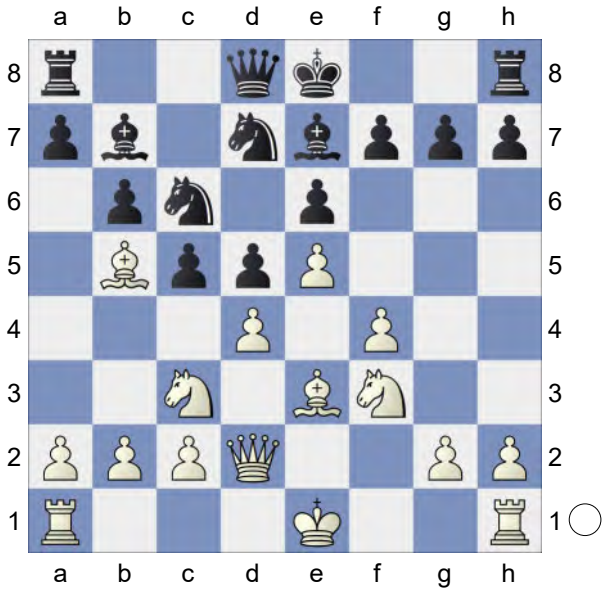
22.a5! Nd7 Against Bb6 **23.Bd6 Ng6** 3.31/18
[⌓23...Nf8 2.09/17 24.Bc7 Qd7]
24.Ra1
[24.Rc7 Nf6 25.Qb4 Ne4+-]
24...Ndf8 25.Bc7 Qh4 26.Rf1 Ne7 27.Nf3 Qh5 28.Be2 Qg6 29.Bd6 aiming for Bd3. **29...Nf5 30.Rc7 Nxd6** 3.65/18
[⌓30...h6 2.48/18 31.Rb1 d4]
31.exd6 f6 Prevents Ne5 **32.Bd3 Qg4 33.Nd4 Rd8 34.Qc3 Kh8 35.Qc5 Qh4 36.h3 Qg3 37.Kh1** Active counter play! **37...Nd7 38.Qb4 Nf8 39.Re7 Bd7 40.Ne2**
[Weaker is 40.Qxb7 Rdb8 41.Qc7 Rc8+-]
40...Qh4 41.Qxb7 Rdb8 42.Qc7 Rc8 43.Qb6 Rcb8 44.Qe3 Qh6 45.Nd4 Rb4 46.Nb3 d4 47.Qd2 Rxb3 48.cxb3 Qh5 49.Qe2 Qxe2 50.Bxe2 g6 51.Rd1 Rb8 52.Bc4 Ra8 53.Rxd4 h6



54.f5! Deflection **54...exf5 55.Rd5 g5 56.Rc5 f4 57.Rc7 f3 58.Rcxd7** 14.56/23
[⌓58.Rexd7 32.15/28 Nxd7 59.Rxd7]
58...Nxd7 59.Rxd7 Endgame Intending Re7 and mate. KRB-KR **59...f5 60.Re7 g4 61.d7 h5 62.Re8+ Kg7 63.Rxa8 fxg2+ 64.Kxg2 gxh3+ 65.Kxh3** White mates. **65...Kf6 66.Re8 Kg7 67.Rg8+ Kf6 68.d8Q+ Ke5 69.Re8+ Kf4 70.Bxa6 Kf3 71.Qd3+ Kf4** Weighted Error Value: White=0.29 (precise) /Black=0.86 **72.Qe3#**
1-0

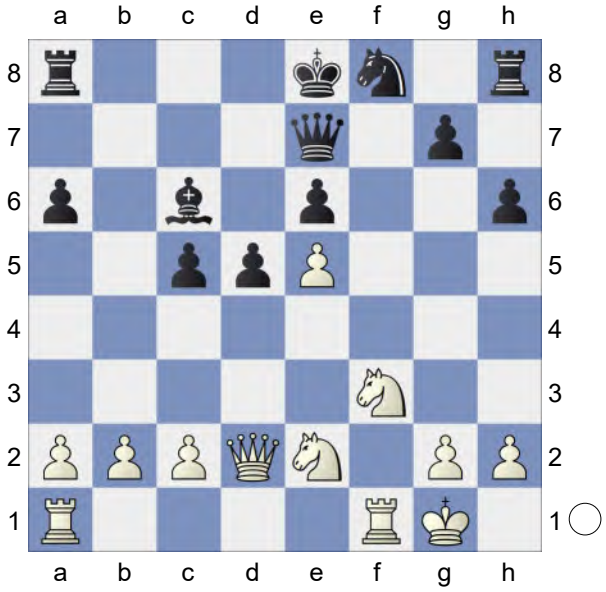
192 **C11**
□ **Sjugirov,S.** **2663**
■ **Alekseev,Evgeny** **2627**
71st ch-RUS HL 2018 (7.8) 03.07.2018
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Be7 8.Qd2 b6** 0.78/18
[8...a6= 0.16/18]
9.Bb5± Bb7

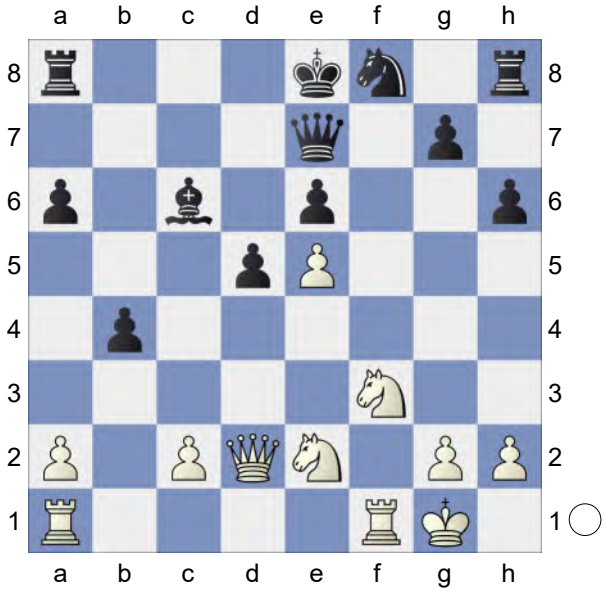


10.f5N 0.17/20 White is more active.
10...a6 1.03/19
[10...0-0= 0.17/20]
11.Bxc6 Bxc6 12.fxe6 0.39/19
[12.0-0-0± 0.91/19 b5 *(12...Qc7 13.Bg5 Nf8 14.Bxe7 Qxe7 15.f6 gxf6 16.exf6 Qc7 17.g4* Modestov,B (2657)-Sharikov,A (2551) St Petersburg-ch 1998*)* 13.fxe6 fxe6 14.Ne2 c4 15.Ng5 Nf8 16.Rhf1 Bxg5 17.Bxg5 Qd7 18.Qc3 h6 19.Qh3 Rh7 20.Qf3 Rh8 21.Qh3 Rh7 22.Qf3 Rh8 23.Qh5+ g6 24.Qh3 1-0 Chan,L (2614)-Korganoff,B (2457) European Team Championship 2003 (6.45)]

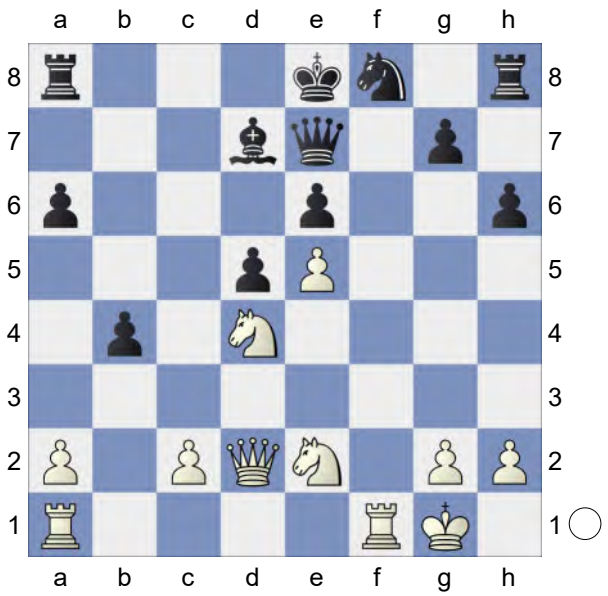
12...fxe6± 13.Ne2 Qc7? 1.94/18
[13...0-0!± 0.36/16]
14.Bg5+- Nf8 15.0-0 h6 2.16/19
[⌓15...Ng6 1.62/19]
16.Bxe7 Qxe7 17.dxc5 1.13/18
[White should play 17.Rf2+- 1.98/17]
17...bxc5±



18.b4 0.52/19 **cxb4?** 2.80/18
[Better is 18...Bb5± 0.52/19]



19.Nfd4!+- Bd7 3.24/17
[19...Bb5 2.25/17 20.Nxb5 axb5]



20.Qd3! Qc5 and ...Bb5 would now be decisive **21.Kh1 Bb5 22.Nxb5 Qxb5** 5.06/20

[22...axb5 2.74/20 might work better. 23.Nd4 Ra3 24.Qxb5+ Qxb5 25.Nxb5 Re3]

23.Qf3 0-0-0 24.c3 Nd7 25.Nd4 Qb6

[Stronger than 25...Nxe5 26.Qe3 Qb8 27.Nxe6+-]

26.Qe3 Nb8 27.cxb4

[27.Rac1 Kb7±]

27...Kb7 28.Qd3 Rc8 29.b5 aiming for bxa6+. **29...Ka8 30.bxa6 Rc4 31.Rfd1 Rhc8?** 6.17/21

[31...Rf8 2.27/19]

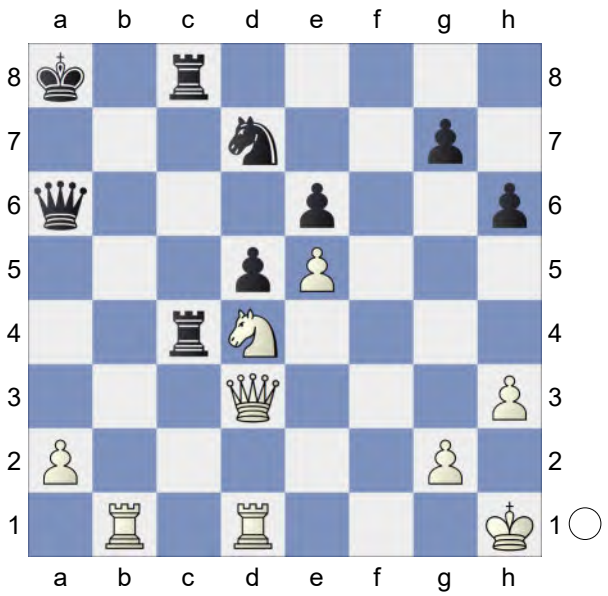
32.Rab1 White is clearly winning.

32...Qxa6 33.h3

[Not 33.Qg6 Nd7 34.h3 *(34.Nxe6 Nc5∓; 34.Qxe6 Qxe6 35.Nxe6* Discovered Attack *Nxe5±; 34.Qxg7 Nc5±)* 34...Nc5±]

33...Nd7

(Diagram)



Weighted Error Value: White=0.34/ Black=0.90 **34.Nxe6!** Discovered Attack **1-0**

193 **C11**

□ **Kasimdzhanov,R.** **2663**

■ **Akobian,Varuzhan** **2625**

St Louis Spring A (6.1) 07.03.2019

[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 The 44th Olympiad in Chennai will always be remembered, and will always remain in our hearts and minds. I and most of my teammates became Olympic champions for the first time in our lives. In 2018 Olympiad in Baku I won gold medal by showing the best performance on the 1st board, but winning a gold medal with a team is even more special. Today I decided to annotate of my games from this tournament. I believe it's not the best game I've played but I find it being the most exciting with quite many instructional moments. So, let's get started :) Die 44. Olympiade in Chennai

wird uns immer in Erinnerung bleiben und in unseren Herzen und Köpfen weiterleben. Ich und die meisten meiner Mannschaftskameraden wurden zum ersten Mal in unserem Leben Olympiasieger. Bei der Olympiade 2018 in Baku habe ich die Goldmedaille mit der besten Leistung am ersten Brett gewonnen, aber eine Goldmedaille mit einer Mannschaft zu gewinnen, ist noch viel besonderer. Heute habe ich beschlossen, meine Partien aus diesem Turnier zu kommentieren. Ich glaube, es ist nicht die beste Partie, die ich gespielt habe, aber ich finde, es war die aufregendste mit ziemlich vielen lehrreichen Momenten. Also, lasst uns anfangen :) **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.Ne2 b5** 0.69/18

[8...Be7= 0.30/17]

9.c3±

[9.g3 Qa5+ 10.Kf2 Be7 11.h4 0-0 12.c3 b4 13.Qc2 bxc3 14.bxc3 f5 15.Nc1 Rb8 16.Nb3 Qa4 17.dxc5 Nxc5 18.Be2 Ne4+ 19.Kg2 Bd7 20.Nfd2 Na5 21.Rhc1 Rfc8 22.Nxe4 dxe4 23.Nxa5 Qxa5 1-0 Bacrot,E (2720)-Laznicka,V (2676) Olympiad-41 Tromsoe 2014 (9.2)]

9...Be7 0.77/17

[9...b4± 0.38/18]

[9...Bb7 10.g4 Qb6 11.Ng3 Be7 12.Bd3 0-0-0 13.0-0 Kb8 14.Qd2 h6 15.f5 Rdf8 16.Rf2 cxd4 17.cxd4 Bd8 18.Raf1 Qa7 19.fxe6 fxe6 20.Nh5 Bb6 21.Bb1 Rxf3 22.Rxf3 Nxd4 23.Rf7 Nxe5 24.Rf8+ 1-0 Muzychuk,A (2529)-Peycheva,G (2295) Olympiad Women-44 2022 (4.2)]

10.dxc5N 0.26/19

[10.Ng3± 0.77/17]

[10.a3 0-0 11.g3 a5 12.h4 b4 13.Qc2 bxc3 14.bxc3 Ba6 15.Ng5 g6 16.h5 Bxg5 17.fxg5 cxd4 18.cxd4 Rc8 19.Qd1 Ndxe5 20.dxe5 Nxe5 21.Ng1 Bxf1 22.Kxf1 Nc4 23.Bf2 Qxg5 24.Nf3 Ne3+ 0-1 Bacrot,E (2677)-Werle,J (2528) Deutschland 138/123 2018 25.Bxe3 Qxe3 26.Qe2 Qxe2+ 27.Kxe2 Rc2+ 28.Nd2 Rc3 29.Nf3 gxh5 30.Rxh5 Rb8 31.Rg5+ Kf8 32.a4 Rb2+ 33.Nd2 Rcc2 34.Rd1 Ra2 35.Rh5 Kg7 36.Rg5+ Kf6 37.Rg8 Rcb2 38.Kd3 e5 39.Kc3 Rc2+ 0-1 Campos (2677)-Vilner (2528) ETCC Crete 2007 40.Kd3 e4+ 41.Ke3 Ra3+ 42.Kf4 e3 ½-½ Bacrot,E (2653)-Gelfand,B (2704) Albert m 2002 (2)]

10...Nxc5= 11.Ned4 Bd7 12.Be2 0-0 13.0-0 Nxd4 14.Bxd4 a5 15.Qe1 Qc7 16.Rc1 Rfc8 0.52/18

[16...Qb7= 0.06/18]

17.Qf2 0.03/19

[17.Nd2± 0.52/18]

17...Qb7 0.47/19

[17...Ne4= 0.03/19 18.Qe3 Qd8]

18.Qe3 0.06/19

[18.Nd2± 0.47/19]

18...Rc7 0.67/18

[18...Ne4= 0.06/19]

19.Nd2± Rac8 20.Bf3 -0.07/17

[20.g4± 0.69/19]

20...Qa6 0.42/23

[20...Qb8= -0.07/17 deserves consideration.]

21.Be2 -0.01/17

[21.a3!± 0.42/23]

21...Qb7!= 22.Bf3 -0.01/20

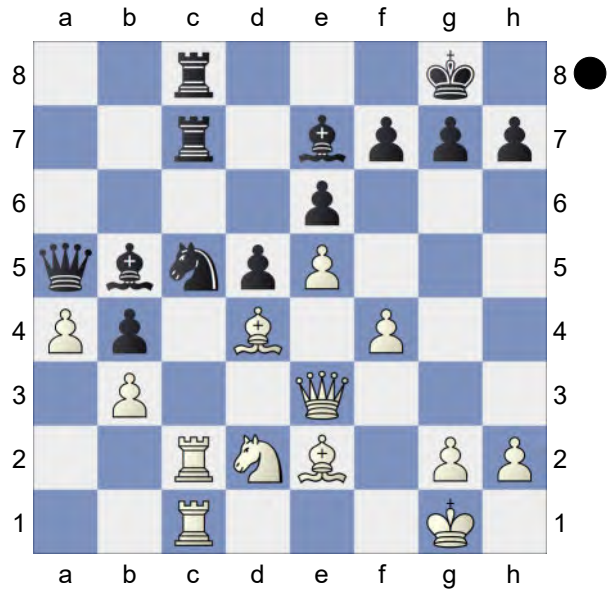
[22.g4!± 0.54/19]

22...Qa6 23.Rc2 0.01/19

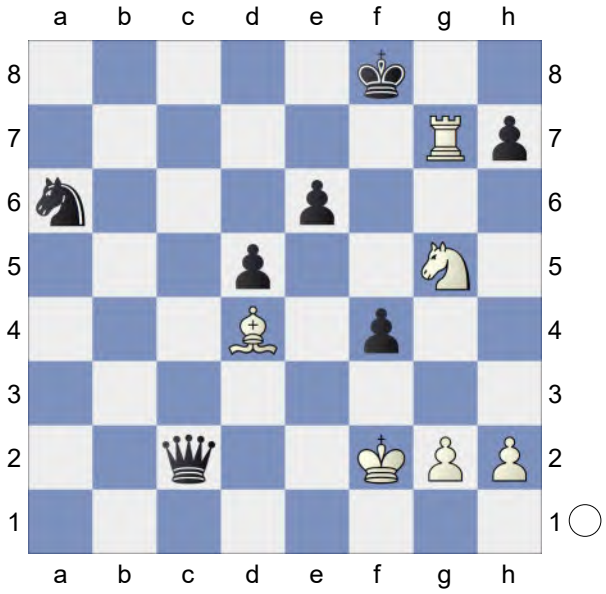
[Better is 23.a3!± 0.52/21]

23...b4 24.cxb4! axb4 25.Rfc1 Qa5

26.Be2 -0.29/20
[⌓26.h3 0.15/23]
26...Ba4 27.b3 Bb5 This move loses the game for White. **28.a4?** -3.03/21
[28.h3= -0.29/20 and White stays safe.]



28...bxa3!-+ 29.b4 Qxb4 30.Bxb5 Qxb5 31.Qxa3 Na6
[31...Nb3? 32.Qxb3 *(32.Nxb3? Bxa3 33.Rxc7 Rxc7-+; 32.Rxc7 Rxc7 33.Qa8+ Bf8±)* 32...Rxc2 *(32...Qxb3? 33.Rxc7+-)* 33.Rxc2+-]
32.Qxe7 -4.50/25
[32.Qb3 -2.22/22 Qxb3 33.Rxc7 Rxc7 34.Nxb3]
32...Rxe7
[32...Rxc2? 33.Rxc2 Re8 34.Qa3+-]
33.Rxc8+ Re8 34.R1c6 Kf8 35.f5 -5.66/23
[35.Nf3 -3.70/20 was necessary. Qb7 36.Rxe8+ Kxe8 37.Rb6]
35...exf5 Black is clearly winning. **36.e6 fxe6 37.Nf3 Rxc8 38.Rxc8+ Ke7 39.Rg8** -7.79/19
[⌓39.h3 -5.03/18 Nb4 40.Rc7+ Kd8 41.Rxg7]
39...Qb1+ 40.Kf2 f4 41.Rxg7+ Kf8
...Qc2+ would now be deadly. **42.Ng5 Qc2+**



Skewer **43.Ke1 e5**
[43...Qxg2? 44.Nxe6+ *(44.Nxh7+ Ke8+-)* 44...Ke8 45.Rxg2+-]
44.Bxe5 Weighted Error Value: White=0.86/Black=0.13 (very precise) **44...Qc1+**
[44...Qxg2? too greedy. 45.Ne6+ Discovered Attack *(45.Nxh7+ Ke8+-)* 45...Ke8 46.Rxg2+-]
0-1

194 **C11**
□ **Gharamian,T.** **2660**
■ **Bluebaum,Matthias** **2580**
Bundesliga 2015-16 (14.5) 23.04.2016
[Kitty Kat,TA]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 This game is probably the single most important game of my life so far. Winning this game gave me my final norm and secured me the IM title. Since it was played in a league match, the captains of our respective teams agreed that I would play Board One against Peter Roberson to guarantee me the

rating average I needed to make the norm if I won. Therefore, I knew exactly who I would be playing a week in advance. Back then, Peter almost exclusively played the French Defense with Black. He's also a 1 e4 player and usually plays 3 Nd2 against the French. Therefore, it made sense for me to focus on 3 Nc3, which is considered more challenging for Black anyway, and prepare it deeply. My opponent had chosen a few different lines against 3 Nc3 over the years, but I was able to narrow it down to the Winawer (3...Bb4) and the following two lines after 3... Nf6:4 e5 Nfd7, 5 f4 c5, 6 Nf3 Nc6 7 Be3 be7 8 Qd2 a6 and 6...Be7 7 Be3 b6!? The latter had been used to good effect by Harikrishna against Giri, and at the time, the ball was in White's court theoretically. I decided it was worth preparing for this in some detail. I have shared my preparation with you below and have updated the lines with recent games. **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Be7 7.Be3 0-0 8.Qd2 b6** 0.60/19

[8...Nc6= 0.14/19]

9.Nd1 0.22/21

[9.h4± 0.60/19]

9...a5 0.60/20

[9...cxd4= 0.22/21 10.Nxd4 Bb7]

10.c3 Ba6N

[10...a4 11.Bd3 Ba6 12.0-0 Nc6

A) 13.f5 a3 14.b3 cxd4 15.cxd4 Bxd3 16.Qxd3 Nb4 17.Qe2 exf5 18.Bd2 Nb8 19.Ne3 Qd7 20.Nh4 *(20.Bxb4 Bxb4 21.Nh4 g6* Baskin,R (2329)-Neef,M (2406) Deutschland 128/(95) 2015*)* 20...Nc2 21.Nhxf5 Nxe3 22.Bxe3 Kh8 23.Qf3 Nc6 24.Qg3 Rg8 25.Qh3 Qe6 26.Rf3 Bf8 27.Raf1 Nb4 1-0 Fitzsimons,D (2323)-Roberson,P (2410) 4NCL 2017/18 2021 (9);

B) 13.Bxa6 Rxa6 14.f5 b5 15.fxe6 fxe6 16.Qe2 Qb6 17.Nf2 a3 18.b3 b4 19.dxc5 Bxc5 20.Bxc5 Nxc5 21.c4 Ne4 22.cxd5 exd5 23.e6 Ne7 24.Kh1 Nc3 25.Qd3 0-1 Grube,J (2790)-Kennaugh,C (2763) Ostrava 1991 (6)]

11.Bxa6 Nxa6 12.Qe2 Ndb8 1.08/20

[12...Nc7± 0.42/19]

13.0-0 0.66/18

[13.Nf2± 1.08/20]

13...Qd7 1.24/19

[13...Nc6± 0.66/18]

14.Bf2 0.35/22

[14.Nf2!± 1.24/19]

14...Nc6 15.Ne3 Repels b5 **15...b5** 0.94/19 **16.Rad1±**

[16.Qxb5?! Nxe5 17.Qxd7 Nxd7=]

16...cxd4 17.cxd4 a4 18.h4 0.42/19

[18.Qxb5 Nxe5 19.Qxd7 Nxd7∓]

[18.Kh1± 0.94/20]

18...Nc7 1.31/19

[18...a3!± 0.42/19]

19.Ng4 0.35/20

[19.h5± 1.31/19]

19...Kh8 1.06/21

[19...h6± 0.35/20]

20.Rc1 Rac8 1.95/21

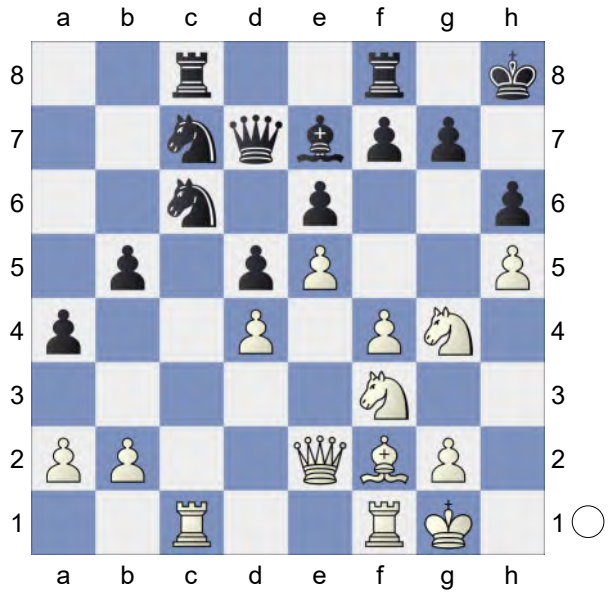
[20...a3± 0.51/20]

21.h5 0.58/21

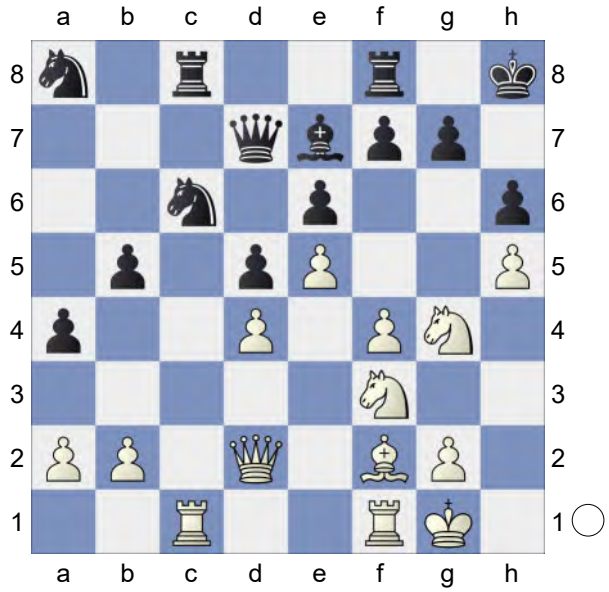
[21.Ng5!+- 1.95/21]

21...h6±

(Diagram)



22.Qd2! Na8? 1.98/20
[Black should try 22...a3± 0.46/20]



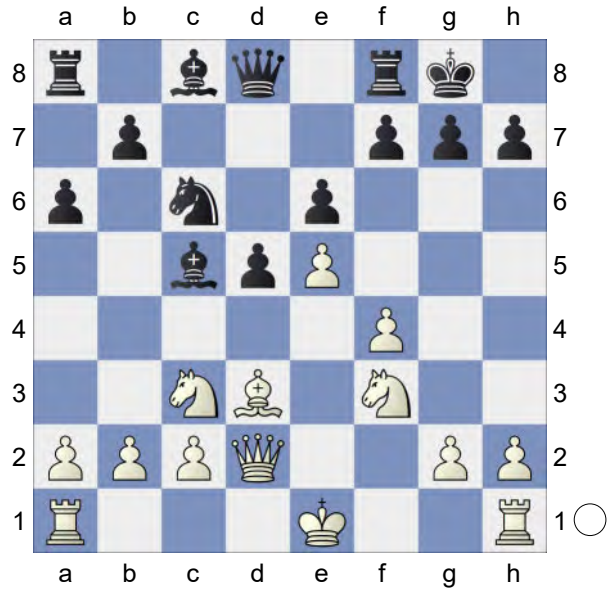
23.Bh4? 0.29/18
[23.Nxh6!+- 1.98/20 Bb4 *(23...gxh6 24.f5±)* 24.Qe3 gxh6 25.a3]
23...Nb6? 4.84/22
[23...Bxh4!= 0.29/18 and Black has nothing to worry. 24.Nxh4 Qe7]
24.b3? 0.18/25
[24.Bf6+- 4.84/22]
24...axb3 0.92/23
[24...Bxh4= 0.18/25 keeps the balance. 25.Nxh4 Qe7]
25.axb3± Bxh4 26.Nxh4 Qe7 27.Qf2 -0.69/18
[27.Nf3± 0.94/23]
27...Nxd4∓ Deflection **28.g3?** -2.54/22
[White should try 28.Qxd4∓ -0.40/22 Qxh4 29.Nh2]
28...Nxb3? -0.24/19
[28...Rxc1-+ -2.54/22 29.Rxc1 Nxb3]
29.Rb1 -4.74/18
[29.Rxc8!= -0.24/19 Nxc8 30.Rb1]
29...Nc5 30.Rxb5 Nc4 -1.53/19
[30...Ne4-+ -4.47/20 31.Qxb6 Nxg3]
31.Kh2? -8.11/20
[31.f5∓ -1.53/19 Ne4 32.Qf4]
31...Ne4-+ Black is clearly winning.
32.Qg2 Ncd2 33.Re1 Rc2 34.Kh3 Rfc8 35.Re2 Nc3 36.Rxd2 Rxd2 37.Qxd2 Strongly threatening Qc1.
37...Nxb5 38.Qd3 Qb4 ...Rc3 would now be deadly. **39.f5 Qc4 40.Qd1 Nc3 41.Qa1** Black used his chance.
Weighted Error Value: White=1.29/ Black=0.90 **41...Ne4**
0-1

195 **C11**
□ **Cheparinov,Ivan** **2658**
■ **Bluebaum,Matthias** **2668**
Bundesliga 2324 (3.5) 02.12.2023
[Krasenkow,Michal, TA]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Be7 8.Qd2 a6 9.Bd3 0-0?!**
[9...b5 is much safer.]
10.dxc5! Nxc5 This move allows a typical combination. Its consequences don't look quite clear but in practice it is very dangerous.
[10...Bxc5?! 1.29/24 10...Qa5 0.36

11.Bxh7+! anyway]
[10...Qa5 11.0-0 f6 0.89/19 *(11...Bxc5 12.Qf2± ; 11...Nxc5 12.a3± ; 11...Nxc5=* 0.27/22 *12.Qf2 Qb4)* 12.Kh1 Nxc5 13.exf6 Rxf6 14.Be2 Kh8 15.a3 Qc7 16.Rad1 0.56/21 *(16.b4±* 1.13/21 *Ne4 17.Nxe4 dxe4 18.Ng5)* 16...b5!± 17.Nd4± 1-0 Timoshenko,G (2537)-Mayans Calvo,M (2253) Baleares-chT Ibiza 2012 (5.2)]

11.Bxc5 White is better. **11...Bxc5**



12.Bxh7+! Decoy **12...Kxh7 13.Ng5+ Kg8**
[13...Kg6? 3.22/20 13...Kg8 0.60 14.Qd3+ f5 15.Qg3+- →]

14.Qd3! White has strong compensation. **14...Re8!**
[14...f5? 2.37/23 14...Re8 0.69 15.Qh3 Rf7 16.0-0-0!→ g6? 3.52/22 Dodges g4 *(16...Ne7±* 1.37/17 *)* 17.Nxf7+- Kxf7 18.Qh7+ Kf8? 4.62/21 *(18...Ke8* 2.35/22 keeps fighting. *19.Qxg6+ Ke7)* 19.Rd3 2.56/18 *(⌓19.g4* 4.62/21 *)* 19...Ne7? 5.92/20 *(19...Ra7* 2.56/18 *20.Rh3 Ne7)* 20.Qh8++- Ng8 21.Rg3 Qe8 22.h4 Qf7 23.h5 Qg7 24.Qxg7+ Kxg7 25.hxg6± 1-0 Santos Ruiz,M (2505)-Banzea,A (2278) EU-ch U18 27th Mamaia 2017 (1)]

15.Qh7+ Kf8 16.Qh5! Qc7
[16...g6 1.42/20 16...Qc7 0.72 17.Qh7 Nxe5 *(17...Qc7* 2.33/20 17...Nxe5 1.02 *18.0-0-0* , and Black is paralized *)* 18.Qh6+ Ke7 19.fxe5 Be3 20.Rf1±]

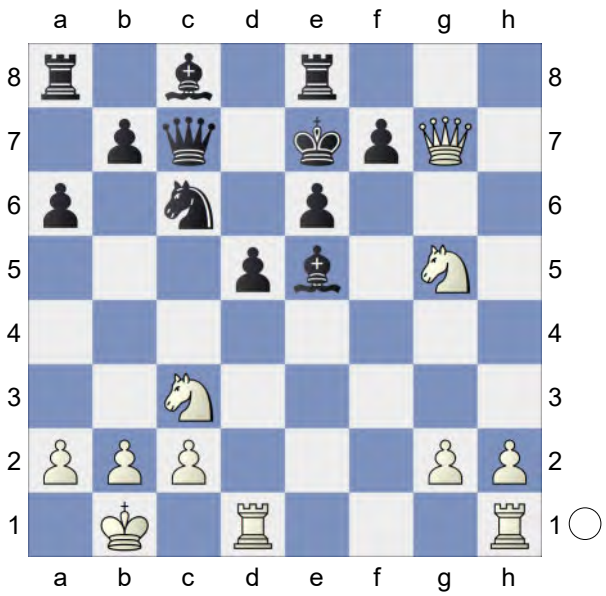
17.0-0-0! Be3+
[17...Nd4 2.02/17 17...Be3+ 0.73 18.Qh8+? 0.11/5 *(18.Rd3+-* 2.02/17 *)* 18...Ke7= 19.Qxg7 Rf8? 2.67/21 *(19...Qc6=* -0.09/21 and Black stays safe. *)* 20.Nh7±]

18.Kb1 White is more active. **18...Bxf4**

19.Qh8+
[19.Rxd5!? 0.49/23 19.Qh8+ 1.01 is beautiful but not so effective as after Bxg5 20.Qh8+! Ke7 21.Qxg7 Be3 1.42/22 White can only give a perpetual. *(≤21...Bh4 22.g3 ; 21...Bh4±* 0.50/23 *)*]

19...Ke7 20.Qxg7 Bxe5
[20...Rf8?! 7.44/19 20...Bxe5 0.70 21.Nh7]
[20...Nxe5?! 21.Rhe1→]
[20...Nxe5 21.Rhe1 Kd6 *(21...Bxh2 22.Nxf7 Kd7 23.Nxe5+ Kd8 24.Nf7+ Kd7 25.Nxd5+-)* 22.g3 *(22.Qf6 Bxg5 23.Qxe5+ Kc6±)* 22...Bxg5 23.Qxe5+ Kc6 24.Qxg5]
[20...Qxe5? 21.Qxf7+ Kd8 22.Nxd5 Bxg5 23.Rhe1+- *(23.Nf6+ Nd4+-)*]

(Diagram)



21.Nxd5+! exd5 22.Qxf7+ Kd8 23.Rxd5+ Bd7! 24.Ne6+! Rxe6 25.Qxe6 Nb4?! Discovered Attack, Double Attack

[25...Kc8!? 0.90/23 25...Nb4 0.45 26.Qg8+ Qd8 *(26...Nd8? 5.91/21 26...Qd8 0.74 27.Rhd1)* 27.Qxd8+ Kxd8 28.Rhd1 Bd4! 29.c3 Ke7 1.09/21 *(*Better is *29...Kc7± 0.59/20)* 30.cxd4± Rf8 1.54/17 - White has even obtained a material advantage but Black's active pieces offer him good drawing chances in this endgame. *(⌓30...Rg8 0.73/18)*]

[25...Bxh2? 26.Qg8+ Ke7 27.Qg5+ *(27.Qxa8 Be6+-)* 27...Ke6 28.Rxh2+-]

26.Rxd7+!→ Deflection. White attacks with force.

[26.Qxe5 Qxc2+ *(26...Nxd5 27.Qxd5 Kc8 28.Rd1=)* 27.Ka1 Nxd5 28.Qxd5 Kc7 29.Qe5+ Kc6=]

[26.Qg8+ Ke7 27.Qh7+ *(27.Qxa8? Qxc2+ 28.Ka1 Bxb2#; 27.Rxe5+ Qxe5 28.Qxa8 Qe4=)* 27...Ke6=]

26...Qxd7 27.Qxe5 With queens on the board, it is difficult for Black to parry all threats. **27...Nc6N 28.Qg3** 0.27/20

[⌓28.Qf4! Kc8! 29.h4 b5? 2.09/21 *(29...Qd4± 0.56/21 30.Qf8+ Qd8)* 30.h5±]

[28.Qf4!± 0.67/22 is more appropriate.]

28...Qd5!?= Black now has this comfortable way to rearrange his pieces.

[≤28...Kc8 1.12/21 28...Qd5 0.28 29.h4! b5 1.80/20 *(29...Qc7± 0.87/20 30.Qg5 Qd8)* 30.h5]

29.Rf1! Kd7

[29...Rc8!? 2.91/24 29...Kd7 0.56 30.a3? 0.26/19 *(30.Rf8+? 0.01/19* 30.Kc1 2.90 *Ke7! 31.Qg7+ Kd6; 30.Kc1+- 2.91/24 Qe5 31.Rf8+ Kc7 32.Qxe5+ Nxe5 33.Rxc8+ Kxc8 34.Kd2)* 30...Ne5!]

30.Qg7+ Ne7 1.30/20

[30...Kc8± 0.50/19]

31.Re1± Loses the game. **31...Qc5** 3.47/25 A tactical oversight.

[31...Re8 1.66/19 31...Qd6 1.08 was correct, with good drawing chances. Note that it is practically enough for Black to give up his knight for White's two kingside pawns.]

[31...Qd6± 1.10/21]

32.Qg4+!+- Kd8? 7.52/19

[Our team leader overlooked 32...Kc7? 6.32/24 32...Nf5 2.73 33.b4! , and after Qd6 ...Nc6! is the strong threat. 34.Re6 Black must make an awkward move Qd8 *(34...Qd7 35.Qf4+!+-)* , which leads to a hopeless position after 35.Qf4+ Kc8 36.Rd6! Qg8 *(36...Qe8 37.Rf6! Kd7 38.Qd6+ Kc8 39.Re6)* 37.g4 , and Black, with his rook out of play, can't stop the advance of White's kingside pawns. *(*but not *37.Rf6?* 0.01/19 37.a3 5.69 *Kd7 38.Qd6+ Ke8)*]

[However, 32...Nf5! was more

stubborn: 33.Rf1 1.92/21 *(33.Rd1+? -0.25/22* 33.b4 3.06 *Kc7; 33.b4 Qf2; ⌓33.b4* 3.43/26 *Qf2 34.Re2 Qf1+ 35.Kb2)* 33...Rf8+- - the pin is annoying but Black can get away with minimal damage: 34.Qf3 *(34.Qf4?* 0.17/22 34.a4 2.06 *Rf7!)*

A) 34...b5 2.48/20 34...Kc8 1.86 35.Qb7+ 1.30/20 *(Only move: 35.g4+-* 2.48/20 *Qxc2+ 36.Ka1)* 35...Kd6± 36.Qxa6+ 0.84/20 *(36.c3!+-* 1.71/19 *Rg8 37.a4 bxa4 38.Rd1+ Ke5 39.Re1+ Kf6 40.Qf3)* 36...Kc7 is rather grim;

B) 34...Kc8 1.79/24 is a better chance.;

C) 34...Kc7? 5.98/26 35.g4? 1.85/26 *(*or *35.Qf4+ Kd7 36.g4; 35.Qf4+* 5.98/26 *Kb6 36.b4)* 35...Ne3? 6.21/24 *(35...Qxc2+* 1.85/26 *36.Ka1 Qxh2)* 36.Qxf8+- Qxc2+ 37.Ka1 Nxf1 38.Qxf1 Qxh2 , and it is unclear whether White will be able to convert his extra pawn in the queen endgame.]

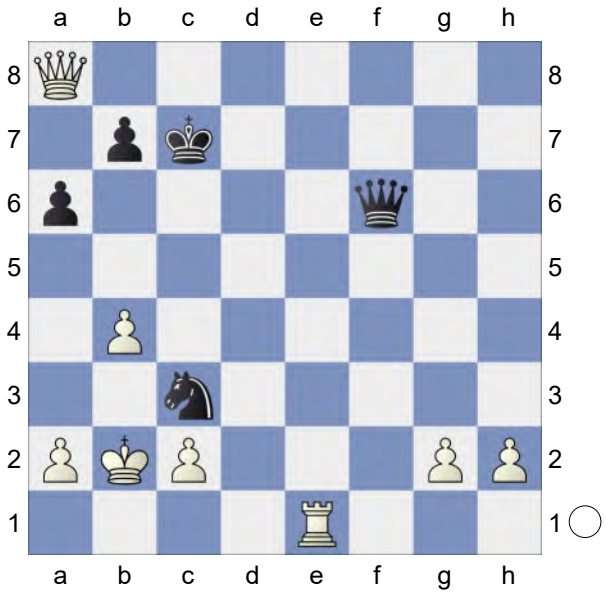
[⌓32...Nf5 2.73/32 33.Rf1 Rf8]

33.b4! This move is killing here, too. White is clearly winning. **33...Qf2**

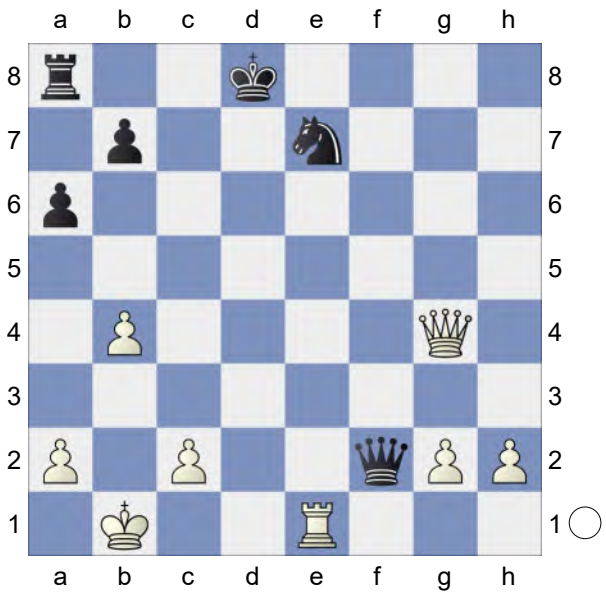
[33...Qd6 34.Rd1+-]

[33...Qf5 34.Qg7! Qd7 *(34...Nd5 35.Qh8+ Kc7 36.Qxa8 Nc3+ 37.Kb2! Qf6*

(Diagram)



Against Re7+ *38.Qe8!* White wants to mate with Re7+. *Na4+ 39.Kc1* Threatens to win with Re7+. *Qa1+ 40.Kd2 Qc3+ 41.Ke2+-)* 35.Qf8+ Qe8 36.Qf6 , and Black is helpless, e. g. Qd7 37.Re6 Qe8 38.Qd4++- △Kc8 39.Qc5+ Kd8 40.Rd6+]



34.Qe6!

[Weaker is 34.Rd1+ Ke8±]

34...Nc8 Against Qd6+ **35.Qe5! Nb6**

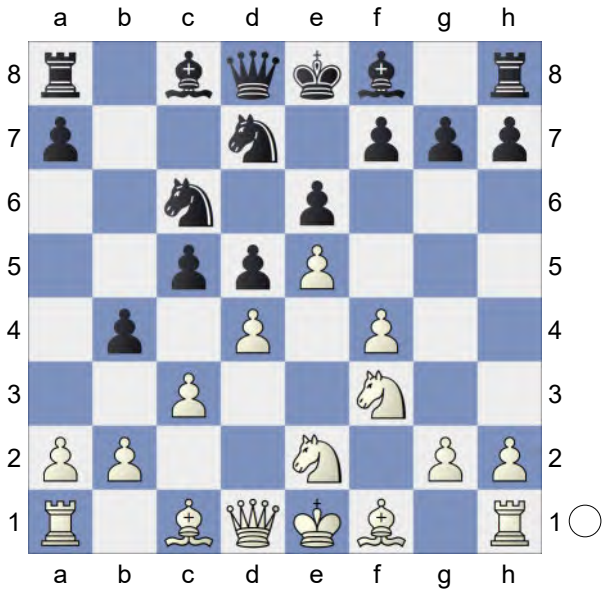
[35...Qd2 36.Re4]

36.Rd1+ Kc8 Weighted Error Value:

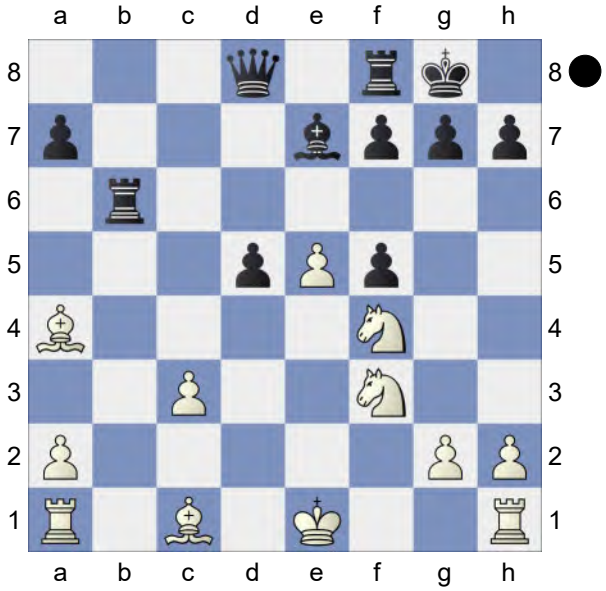
White=0.02 (flawless) /Black=0.52
37.Qd6
1-0

196 **C11**
□ **Preuschat** **2658**
■ **15.Nc4 0-0 16.Qe5 Rab8** **2707**
olm3 qual GP2 B5 corr 2011
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.f4 Nc6 7.c3 b5 8.Nf3**
[8.a3 cxd4 9.Nxd4 Nxd4 10.cxd4 b4 11.a4 Qa5 12.Bd2 Be7 13.Nf3 0-0 14.Bb5 Steinitz 4 e5 Nfd7 5 Nce2-Intro,N French Defence ChessPub Guide 2024]
8...b4

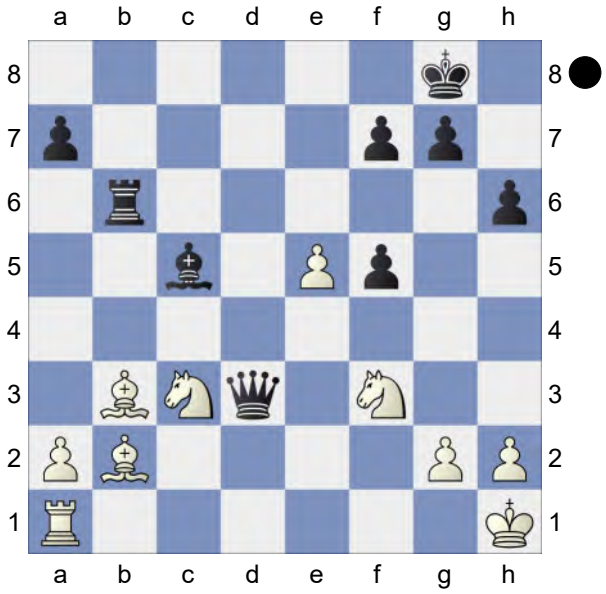


9.f5! exf5N
[9...Rb8 10.Nf4]
[9...bxc3 10.fxe6 fxe6 11.bxc3 cxd4 12.cxd4 Bb4+ 13.Bd2 0-0 14.Bxb4 Nxb4 15.Qd2 Qa5 16.Kf2 Nb6 C 11/07-N,N 2000 17.Rb1 Nc6 18.Qxa5 Nxa5 19.Nc3 ½-½ 4.Nc3 a6 5.Bg5 (2605)-Baklan,N (2615) 56/(471) Podolsk 1992 (8)]
10.Nf4 Black must now prevent Bb5.
10...bxc3 White is slightly better.
11.bxc3 Rb8 Inhibits Bb5. **12.Qa4** -0.01/20
[12.a4± 0.46/20 Qa5 13.Nxd5 cxd4 14.Bb5 dxc3 *(14...Ne7 15.Qb3=)* 15.0-0 *(15.Bxc6 Rb1=)*]
12...Nb6!= 13.Qxc6+ -1.05/20
[13.Qc2= -0.04/21 keeps the balance.]
13...Bd7∓ 14.Bb5 Be7! 15.dxc5 0-0 16.cxb6 Bxc6 17.Bxc6 Rxb6
[17...axb6 18.0-0± *(18.Bxd5 g5∓)*]
[17...Qxb6?! 18.Nxd5 Qd8 *(18...Bh4+? 19.Nxh4 Qc5 20.Nxf5+-; 18...Qc5 19.Be3±)* 19.Nxe7+ Qxe7 20.Bd5=]
18.Ba4



d4 Prevents Be3 **19.0-0 dxc3** -0.80/22
[⌓19...g5 -1.16/22 20.Kh1 gxf4 21.Nxd4 Bb4]
20.Rd1 Bc5+ 21.Kh1 Qc8 22.Nd5! h6 23.Nxc3? -2.25/21
[23.Nxb6∓ -0.40/18 Bxb6 24.Bb3]
23...Rd8-+ 24.Rxd8+
[24.Nd5 Qa6-+]

24...Qxd8 25.Bb3 Qd3 (→ ...Qf1+) **26.Bb2**



Rxb3! 27.axb3 Qc2! 28.Na4 Be3 -1.14/25 Prevents Rc1.

[28...Qxb3 29.Nd4 *(29.Nxc5 Qxb2 30.Rd1 Kh7∓)* 29...Bxd4 30.Bxd4∓]

[28...Bf2!-+ -1.97/23 29.e6 fxe6 *(29...Qxb3? 30.e7+-)*]

29.b4 -2.13/26

[29.e6∓ -1.14/25 fxe6 *(29...Qxb3?* perishes. *30.e7+-)* 30.Bd4 Bxd4 *(30...Qxb3?* too greedy. *31.Nc5+-* Deflection *)* 31.Nxd4]

29...g5 Black has strong compensation.

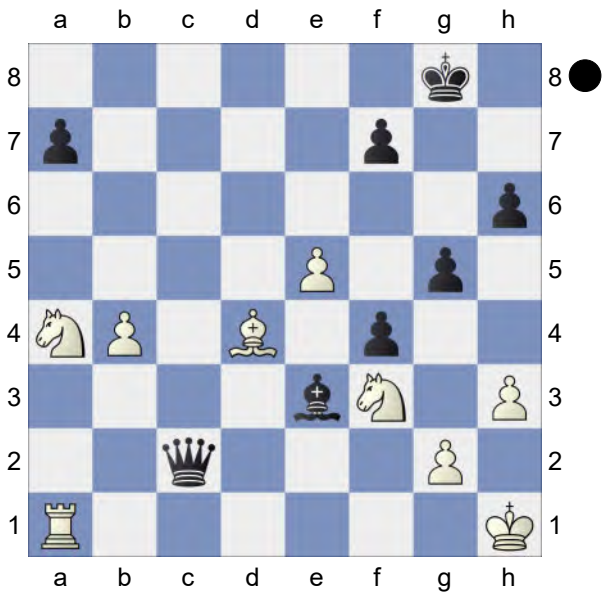
30.Bd4 f4 -0.61/22 Black is more active.

[Better is 30...Bxd4∓ -1.44/23 31.Nxd4 Qd3]

31.h3? -2.13/25

[31.Nc5∓ -0.61/22]

(Diagram)



31...h5? -0.38/26

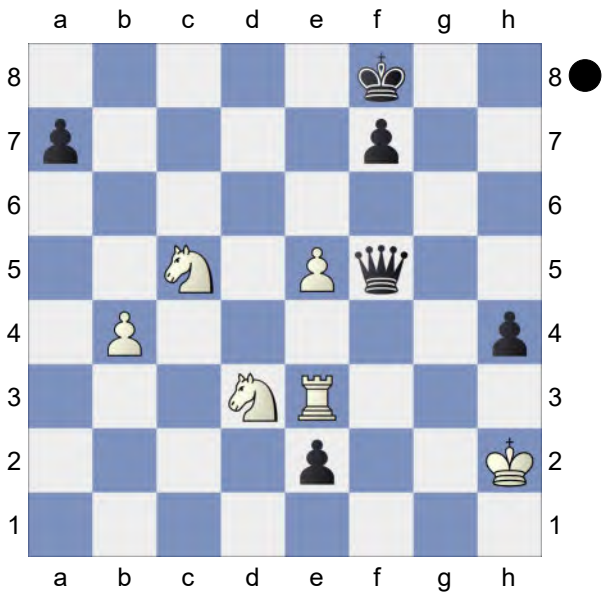
[31...Bxd4!-+ -2.13/25 32.Nxd4 Qc4]

32.Nc5 g4 33.Ne1 Qf5 34.Bxe3 fxe3 35.Ned3! gxh3 Threatens to win with ... e2. **36.Rg1 hxg2+ 37.Rxg2+ Kf8** -0.18/22

[37...Kh8∓ -0.82/29 ...e2! would now be deadly. 38.Rg3 e2]

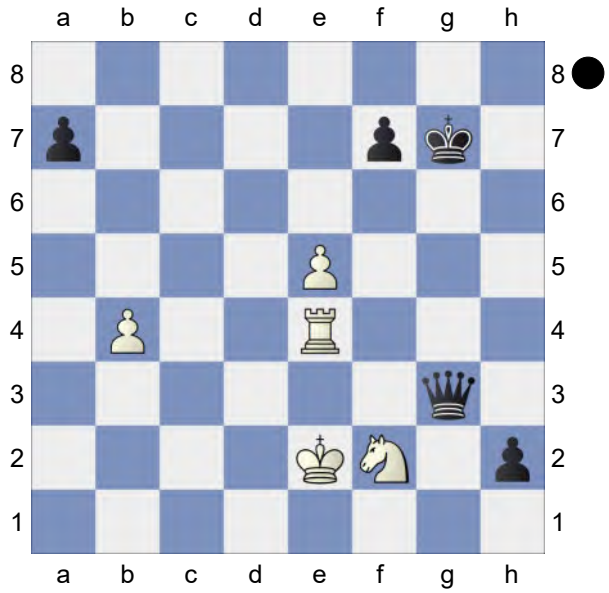
38.Rg3 e2 39.Re3 h4 The board is on fire. **40.Kh2?** -4.80/24

[40.e6∓ -0.75/21]



40...Qg5! Black is clearly winning.

41.Nd7+ Kg7 42.Rxe2 Hoping for Rg2. **42...Qg3+ 43.Kh1** Strongly threatening Rg2. **43...Qh3+**
[Inferior is 43...Qxd3 44.Rg2+ Kh6 45.Nf6=]
44.Kg1 Qxd7 Endgame. KQ-KRN **45.Nf2 Qf5 46.Re4 Qf3 47.Kf1 h3 48.Rg4+ Kf8 49.Rh4 Qg2+ 50.Ke2 h2 51.Rh5 Kg7 52.Rh4 Qg3 53.Re4**



Qxf2+!! Remove Defender, Promotion. Weighted Error Value: White=0.41/ Black=0.15 (very precise)
0-1

197 **C11**
□ **Smirin,Ilia** **2658**
■ **Vallejo Pons,Francisco** **2707**
Nakhchivan 111/126 2011
[Kovacevic,Aleksandar]

1.e4 Kovacevic,Al **1...e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2** Cyrus Lakdawala: 'This move – which almost feels outside the context of the French Defence – is made with the philosophy: it's a mistake to allow ourselves to be imprisoned by the conventional. This odd move appears as the person who eats an apple with a knife and fork; it's just easier if you pick it up and take a bite. NOTE: With this convoluted move, it appears as if White violates the principle: don't move the same piece twice in the opening without reason. However, he does indeed have a good reason: White clears the c3-square, enabling him to meet ...c5 with c3. This means that if Black plays ...cxd4, White can then recapture with a pawn, which reinforces e5, while denying Black's pieces use of c5. The obvious issue with White's move is that it loses time. ' Cyrus Lakdawala: 'This move - which almost feels outside the context of the French Defence - is made with the philosophy: it's a mistake to allow ourselves to be imprisoned by the conventional. This odd move appears as the person who eats an apple with a knife and fork; it's just easier if you pick it up and take a bite. --- NOTE: With this convoluted move, it appears as if White violates the principle: don't move the same piece twice in the opening without reason. However, he does indeed have a good reason: White clears the c3-square, enabling him to meet ...c5 with c3. --- This means that if Black plays ...cxd4, White can then recapture with a pawn, which reinforces e5, while denying Black's pieces use of c5. The obvious issue with White's move is that it loses time.' **5...c5 6.f4**
[Normally, the move order is 6.c3 Nc6 which allows White recapture on d4 with a pawn.]
6...Nc6
[Vallejo prefers to remain within the main lines rather than veer with 6...cxd4 . The trouble with this move is

that it helps White untangle: 7.Nxd4 Nc6 8.Ngf3 .]

7.c3 Cyrus Lakdawala: 'NOTE: In this version, White intends to back up his d4-square with pawns, not pieces. This means he will probably respond to a future ...cxd4 with cxd4. ' Cyrus Lakdawala: 'NOTE: In this version, White intends to back up his d4-square with pawns, not pieces. --- This means he will probably respond to a future ... cxd4 with cxd4.'

[7.Nf3!? b5 8.a3!? Ü 62/322 Ü 62/322 Kovacevic,Al: '— 62/322']

7...b5 Cyrus Lakdawala: 'TIP: Undermine the opponent's pawn chain at its base, not its head. Black takes advantage of the fact that White's bishop no longer controls b5. Black intends to undermine White's pawn chain at its lowest link with a coming ...b4.'

[7...Qb6 is Black's main move here.]

8.Nf3 b4⇄ 9.f5!? Cyrus Lakdawala: 'White does his own undermining, offering a pawn to destabilize Black's centre, while clearing f4 for his pieces.'

[The slow 9.g3?! is White's main move, but it doesn't do very well after bxc3 10.bxc3 .]

9...exf5

[9...bxc3 Ü 51/(271) Ü 51/(271) Kovacevic,Al: '— 51/(271)']

10.Nf4 Cyrus Lakdawala: 'Pressuring d5. White's once hemmed in pieces finally achieve autonomy of their structural hindrances. ' **10...bxc3 11.bxc3 Rb8N** Cyrus Lakdawala: 'Black offers to return the pawn to gain time.'

[11...cxd4]

12.Qa4?! Cyrus Lakdawala: '!?' '!?' '!?'

[12.e6 fxe6 13.Nxe6 Qe7 14.Qe2 cxd4 15.cxd4 Nf6∓]

[12.Bd3!? cxd4! *(12...g6? 13.e6 fxe6 14.Nxe6 Qe7 15.0-0±)* 13.cxd4

A) Kovacevic,Al: 'a)' 13...g5!? 14.e6! *(14.Ne2 Bb4+ 15.Kf2 g4 16.Ne1 Ba5!? 17.Bxf5 Bb6∓)* 14...gxf4 15.exd7+ Bxd7 16.Bxf4⩲;

B) 13...Bb4+ 14.Bd2

B1) Kovacevic,Al: 'a)' 14...Bxd2+ 15.Qxd2 0-0

B1a) Kovacevic,Al: '*)' 16.Bxf5? Ndxe5 17.Nxe5 Nxe5 18.Bxh7+ *(18.Bxc8 Nc4!∓)* 18...Kxh7 19.dxe5 Ba6 20.Kf2∓ *(20.Qxd5?! Qg5-+)*;

B1b) 16.0-0 Nb6 17.Rac1⩲;

B2) 14...0-0 15.Rc1⩲ *(15.Bxf5 Ndxe5 16.Nxe5 Bxd2+! 17.Qxd2 Nxe5* Ü 14...Bd2 Ü 14...♗d2 Kovacevic,Al: '— 14...♗d2' *)*]

[12.Bd2!?]

[White refuses to settle for dynamic equality with 12.Nxd5 cxd4 and only then play 13.Qa4 Bb7 14.Bb5 .]

12...Nb6! Cyrus Lakdawala: 'A shocker. White's queen is trapped if he takes c6. '

13.Qxc6+? Cyrus Lakdawala: '!?' '!?' '!?' Cyrus Lakdawala: 'Hey, I just said: "White's queen is trapped if he takes c6". One senses that teamwork isn't the queen's strongest trait. Disreputable motives are rarely approached with a forethought of decorum, and the devious rogue is a more attractive literary character than the honest citizen. '

[13.Qc2 Bd7 *(13...Be7)* 14.Bb5⩲]

13...Bd7 14.Bb5 Be7 Cyrus Lakdawala: 'When a rival places an offer on the bargaining table, our first reaction is to doubt his sincerity. Vallejo cautiously declines the immediate

acceptance and attempts to inject a dose of normalcy into an otherwise confused situation. This is one of those multi-tiered situations of an actor who plays the role of an actor, within a play. Immediate acceptance is risky.'
[14...Bxc6 Cyrus Lakdawala: '!?' '!?' '!?' 15.Bxc6+ Ke7 16.dxc5 Cyrus Lakdawala: 'leaves Black's king dangerously exposed in the middle.' *(16.Ba3 Qc8-+)* 16...Qc8 17.Nd4 Kd8! 18.Nd3!? *(18.cxb6 Rxb6-+)*]
15.dxc5 0-0 Cyrus Lakdawala: 'Understandable caution. '
[Cyrus Lakdawala: 'The line ' 15...Bxc6!? 16.Bxc6+ Nd7 17.e6 Cyrus Lakdawala: 'looks awfully scary for Black.' fxe6 18.Nxe6 Qa5∓]
16.cxb6 Bxc6 17.Bxc6 Rxb6 18.Ba4 Cyrus Lakdawala: '!' '!' '!'
[18.Bxd5? Cyrus Lakdawala: 'loses a piece to ' g5-+ Cyrus Lakdawala: '!' '!' '!' Cyrus Lakdawala: '.']
18...d4! Cyrus Lakdawala: 'Following the principle: create confrontation when leading in development. ' **19.0-0** Cyrus Lakdawala: '!' '!' '!' Cyrus Lakdawala: 'Wisely running for cover;'
[19.Nxd4? Rb4!! 20.Bc2 Rxd4 21.cxd4 Qxd4 22.Rb1 Qc3+ and Black wins, since White's king can't afford to help his bishop out with Kd1, due to a rook check on the d-file.]
[19.cxd4? Bb4+ 20.Kf2 Bc3 sees Black win material.]
19...dxc3
[19...g5! 20.Ne2 *(20.Nd3 dxc3-+; 20.Nh5 dxc3-+; 20.cxd4 gxf4 21.Bxf4∓)* 20...dxc3-+]
20.Rd1 Bc5+ 21.Kh1 Qc8 Cyrus Lakdawala: 'Black removes his queen from attack along the d-file, while covering e6 ideas from White.' **22.Nd5 h6** Cyrus Lakdawala: '!?' '!?' '!?' Cyrus Lakdawala: 'This game is full of contradictory features. Vallejo is willing to widen the material inequality by handing over an exchange to rid himself of White's most active piece. '
[22...Rb7 23.Nxc3 Bd4 24.Nxd4 Qxc3 25.Nb3 *(25.Bg5 Rb4-+)* 25...Qxe5 *(25...Rxb3? 26.Bd2!)* 26.Ba3 Rc8∓]
23.Nxc3 Cyrus Lakdawala: '!?' '!?' '!?' Cyrus Lakdawala: 'Which White declines! '
[23.Nxb6 axb6 24.h4 f4! , and if 25.Bxf4?? Qg4! when Black wins a piece back.]
23...Rd8 24.Rxd8+ Qxd8 25.Bb3 Qd3
[25...g5!?]
26.Bb2 Rxb3!? Cyrus Lakdawala: '!' '!' '!' Cyrus Lakdawala: 'Removing White's most effective piece. In this game both sides play with an almost spiritual contempt for material, while openly flouting conventional conduct. ' **27.axb3 Qc2** Cyrus Lakdawala: 'Defence of b2 and c3 grow awkward for White. ' **28.Na4 Be3!? 29.b4**
[29.Bc3!? g5 *(29...Qxb3 30.Nd4)* 30.Re1 f4 31.h3 Qxb3 32.Ra1∓]
29...g5!? Cyrus Lakdawala: '!' '!' '!' Cyrus Lakdawala: 'Black's territorial acquisition gives him elevated rank on the kingside. On paper White has plenty for the queen, yet his pieces are clumsy and lack targets, while Black can prepare a kingside attack. So White's extra material turns out to be oddly inconsequential. ' **30.Bd4 f4 31.h3 h5! 32.Nc5 g4 33.Ne1 Qf5 34.Bxe3 fxe3 35.Ned3 gxh3 36.Rg1 hxg2+ 37.Rxg2+ Kf8 38.Rg3?**
[Cyrus Lakdawala: 'White may hold a

draw if he plays ' 38.Kh2!?∓ Cyrus Lakdawala: '!' '!' '!' Cyrus Lakdawala: 'and then just waits.']

38...e2 39.Re3 h4! 40.Kh2

[40.Rxe2?? hangs the rook to Qf1+ .]

40...Qg5 Cyrus Lakdawala: '!' '!' '!'

41.Nd7+ Cyrus Lakdawala: '!' '!' '!' Cyrus Lakdawala: 'Playing for a geometric aberration is our best chance if we are losing anyway. With his last move White sets up a devilish trap.'

[Cyrus Lakdawala: 'He correctly avoids' 41.Rxe2 Cyrus Lakdawala: '??' '??' '??' Qg3+ 42.Kh1 Qf3+ 43.Rg2 h3-+ Cyrus Lakdawala: 'and the rook is lost.']

41...Kg7 42.Rxe2 Qg3+ 43.Kh1 Cyrus Lakdawala: 'EXERCISE (critical decision): Black's queen can win either knight. Should Black play 43...Qxd3, or should he first give check with 43...Qh3+ and then play 44...Qxd7 - ? ANSWER:' Cyrus Lakdawala: 'EXERCISE (critical decision): Black's queen can win either knight. Should Black play 43...Qxd3, or should he first give check with 43...Qh3+ and then play 44...Qxd7 - ? --- ANSWER:' **43...Qh3+** Cyrus Lakdawala: '!' '!' '!' Cyrus Lakdawala: 'Black avoids a devious trap and correctly takes the d7-knight. WARNING: When we are winning, the most dangerous state of mind to arise is one of self-congratulation. It's a huge mistake to avoid looking at a position from our opponent's perspective, and an illusion to believe that we are the sole agents in our destiny, since Caissa had the poor taste to invent anomalies, which play havoc on our intended geometry.' Cyrus Lakdawala: 'Black avoids a devious trap and correctly takes the d7-knight. --- WARNING: When we are winning, the most dangerous state of mind to arise is one of self-congratulation. It's a huge mistake to avoid looking at a position from our opponent's perspective, and an illusion to believe that we are the sole agents in our destiny, since Caissa had the poor taste to invent anomalies, which play havoc on our intended geometry.'

[The blunder 43...Qxd3?? allows White to escape with a draw after 44.Rg2+ Kh6 45.Nf6! . Some combinations have the feel of a lucky accident, when in reality they are a wilful construct of mind, as in this case: Qf1+ 46.Kh2 Qf4+ 47.Kh3 Qxb4 *(47...Qxe5?? 48.Ng4+* forks king and queen*)* 48.Ng8+ Kh5 49.Nf6+ Kh6 50.Ng8+ with perpetual check, since Black is unable to play Kh7 51.Nf6+ Kh8?? 52.Rg8# .]

44.Kg1 Qxd7-+ 45.Nf2 Qf5 46.Re4 Qf3 47.Kf1

[47.Rxh4?? hangs the rook to Qg3+ .]

47...h3 Cyrus Lakdawala: 'The h-pawn eventually costs White a piece.' **48.Rg4+ Kf8 49.Rh4 Qg2+ 50.Ke2 h2 51.Rh5 Kg7** Cyrus Lakdawala: '!' '!' '!' **52.Rh4** Cyrus Lakdawala: 'EXERCISE (combination alert): How does Black win more material? ANSWER: Removal of the guard. ' Cyrus Lakdawala: 'EXERCISE (combination alert): How does Black win more material? --- ANSWER: Removal of the guard.'

52...Qg3 Cyrus Lakdawala: '!' '!' '!'

53.Re4

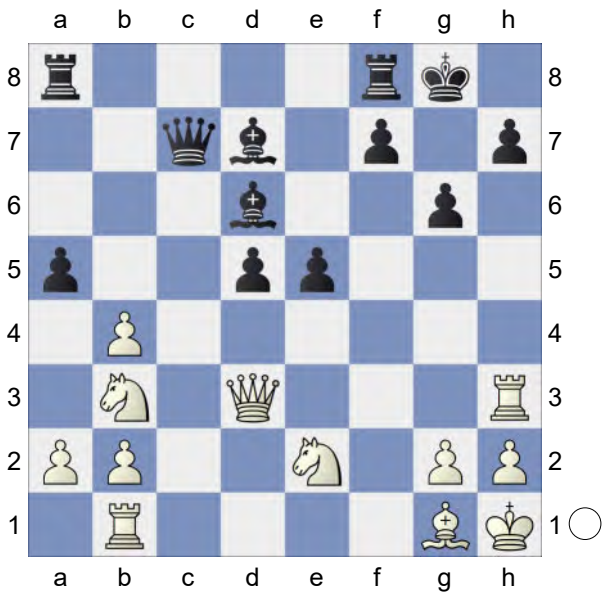
[Cyrus Lakdawala: 'while if ' 53.Rh5 Kg6 Cyrus Lakdawala: 'and White's rook runs out of squares since '

54.Rh8 Qxe5+-+ Cyrus Lakdawala: 'picks up the rook.']
[Instead, 53.Rh3 is met by Qxh3! 54.Nxh3 h1Q]
53...Qxf2+ Cyrus Lakdawala: '!' '!' '!' Cyrus Lakdawala: '. Black removes the only defender of the promotion square, winning another piece. SUMMARY: The French word 'volu', which translates to 'overly contrived', is my impression of the 5 Nce2 plan. White contorts and loses time to back up his d4 point with c3. In my opinion Black's gain of time easily equals White's potentially powerful pawn centre.' Cyrus Lakdawala: '. Black removes the only defender of the promotion square, winning another piece. --- SUMMARY: The French word 'volu', which translates to 'overly contrived', is my impression of the 5 Nce2 plan. White contorts and loses time to back up his d4 point with c3. In my opinion Black's gain of time easily equals White's potentially powerful pawn centre. '

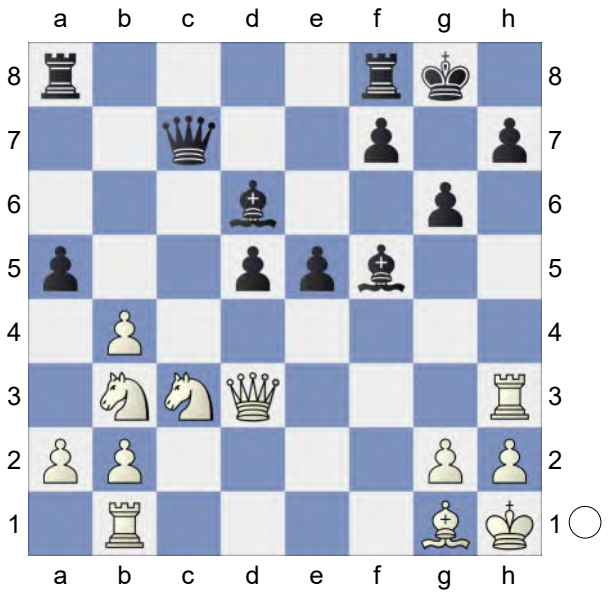
0-1

198 **C11**
□ **Weiawaga** **2657**
■ **expositor** **2723**
Classical 24.01.2025
[Kitty Kat]

Rapid 30min C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.Be2** 0.10/20
[8.Ne2± 0.47/18]
8...cxd4=
[8...b5 9.a3 *(9.0-0 cxd4 10.Nxd4 Bc5 11.Bf3 Nxd4 12.Bxd4 Bxd4+ 13.Qxd4 Qb6 14.Rfd1 Bb7 15.a4 b4 16.Ne2 a5 17.c4 bxc3 18.bxc3 Ba6 19.f5 Ke7 20.Nf4 Rhc8 21.fxe6 fxe6 22.Nxe6 Kxe6 23.Bxd5+ Ke7* 1-0 Stefanova,A (2433)-Moussard,J (2684) Djerba Masters rapid 2023 (6)*)* 9...Qb6 10.0-0 Nxd4 11.Nxd4 cxd4 12.Bxd4 Bc5 13.Bxc5 Nxc5 14.Qd4 Na4 15.Qxb6 Nxb6 16.Bd3 Bd7 17.b3 Ke7 18.Rae1 h6 19.Rf3 Rag8 20.Ne2 g6 21.Nd4 h5 22.Kf2 Rc8 23.Ke3 ½-½ Pechac,J (2620)-Shevchenko,K (2645) POL-chT Ekstraliga 2022 (5.4)]
9.Nxd4 Qc7N
[9...Nxd4 10.Bxd4 Bc5 11.Bxc5 Nxc5 12.b4 Nd7 13.Qd2 Nb6 14.0-0 Bd7 15.Rf3 Nc4 16.Bxc4 dxc4 17.Ne4 Bc6 18.Nd6+ Ke7 19.Rg3 Qb6+ 20.Kh1 g6 21.Nxc4 Qc7 22.Nd6 Bd5 23.c4 Bc6 24.f5 1-0 Mueller,D (2000)-Schmitz,A (1560) Leichlingen op 1987 (6) exf5 25.Qg5+ Kf8 26.Qh6+ Ke7 27.Qg7 Raf8 28.Qf6+ Kd7 29.Rd3 Qb6 30.Nxf5+ Kc7 31.Qd6+ 1-0 O'Brien,J (2000)-Soultatis,K (1560) Int. 1913 (6)]
10.Nb3 b5 The position is equal. **11.0-0 Be7** 0.37/19
[11...Nb6= 0.01/20]
12.Kh1 0-0 0.56/18
[Black should try 12...Nb6!= 0.06/19]
13.Bd3± Nb6 14.Bg1 Nc4 15.Rb1 Bd7 16.Rf3! b4 17.Rg3 N4xe5 1.70/22
[17...g6!± 0.52/19 18.Ne2 Be8]
18.fxe5+- Nxe5
[18...bxc3? 19.Rxg7+ Kxg7 20.Qg4++-]
19.Ne2 a5 20.c3 Nxd3 21.Qxd3 Bd6 22.Rh3 g6 1.83/22
[22...h6± 1.40/20]
23.cxb4 e5
(Diagram)

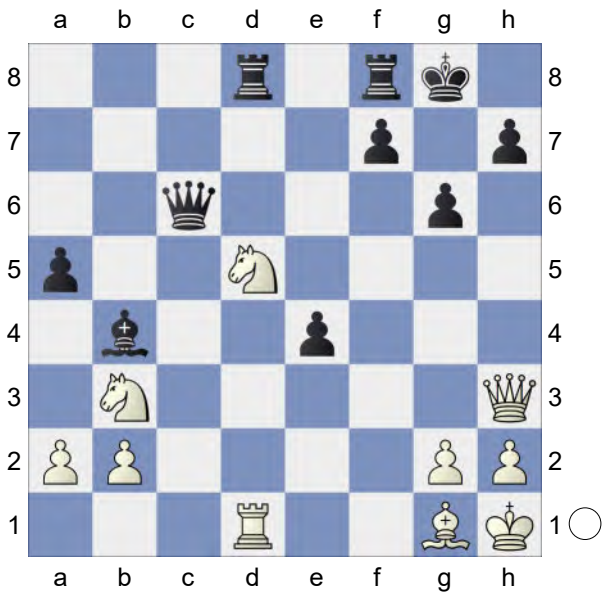


24.Nc3 1.13/22 **Bf5±**
[24...axb4? 25.Nxd5 Qd8 26.Bb6+-]

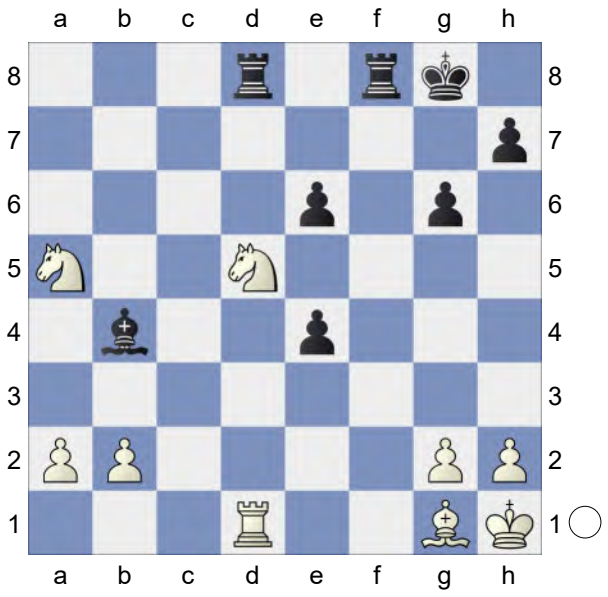


25.Qf3 e4
[25...Bxb4? 26.Nxd5 Qd6 27.Rd1+-]
26.Qe3 Bxh3 27.Qxh3 Bxb4 28.Nxd5 Qc6 Repels Nf6+ **29.Rd1** Black must now prevent Qh4. **29...Rad8**

(Diagram)

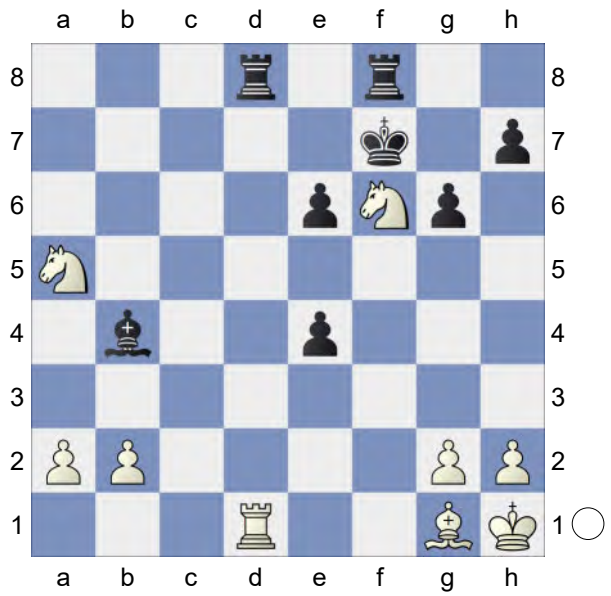


30.Nxa5! Deflection. Excellent horsemanship. **30...Qe6 31.Qxe6**
[31.Nxb4? Rxd1 32.Qe3 Rfd8-+]
31...fxe6



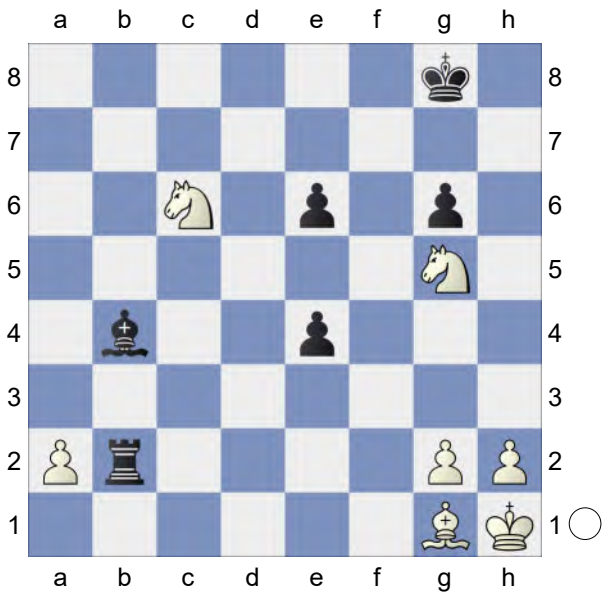
32.Nf6+ Double Attack **32...Kf7**

(Diagram)



33.Rxd8
[33.Nxh7? Rxd1 34.Nc4 Bc5-+]
[33.Rf1 Kg7 34.Nc6 Rxf6=]
33...Rxd8 34.Nc6
[34.Nxh7? Bxa5 35.Ng5+ Kg8-+]
34...Rd2 2.19/25
[34...Rd1 1.73/21 was worth a try. 35.Nxe4 Bd2 36.Ne5+ Ke7]
35.Nxh7+-
[Don't play 35.Nxe4 Rxb2 36.a4 Be1]
35...Rxb2 2.31/26
[⌓35...Be7 1.84/26]
36.Ng5+ Kg8 2.45/23
[⌓36...Ke8 1.89/24 37.Nxe4 *(37.Nxe6 Bd2±)* 37...Ba3]

(Diagram)



37.a4!
[Weaker is 37.Nxe6 Bd2±]
[37.Nxe4 Ba3 38.Ng5 Rxa2±]
37...e3 and ...e2 would now be decisive
38.Nxb4!
[38.Bxe3 Bd2 39.Ne7+ Kf8 40.Nxg6+ Ke8 41.Nxe6 Bxe3∓]
38...Rxb4 39.Bxe3 Rxa4 Weighted Error Value: White=0.09 (flawless) / Black=0.20 (precise) **40.h3**
[40.Nxe6 Re4 41.Nf4 Rxe3∓]
1-0

199 **C11**
□ **Niemann,Hans Moke** **2656**
■ **Erigaisi Arjun** **2675**
chess.com Junior Speed (3.37) 17.05.22
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Ne4 5.Nce2 f6 6.f3**
[6.Nf4 fxe5 7.Qh5+ Kd7 8.Nf3 exf4 9.Ne5+ Ke7 10.Qf7+ Kd6 11.f3 Qh4+ 12.g3 fxg3 13.Ng6 Qd8 14.Nxh8 g2 15.Qf4+ Kc6 16.Bxg2 Nd6 17.Nf7 Nxf7 18.Qxf7 Qh4+

19.Ke2 Bd6 20.Be3 b6 1-0 Juroszek, T (2425)-Przewoznik,J (2380) Dreszer op Gdynia 1989 (6)]

6...Ng5 7.h4N -0.01/19

[7.Be3± 0.46/20 feels stronger.]

[7.Bxg5 fxg5 8.f4 c5 9.fxg5 Qxg5 10.Nf3 Qe3 11.Qd3 cxd4 12.Nfxd4 Qxe5 13.0-0-0 Be7 14.g3 0-0 15.Bh3 Na6 16.Nf4 Nc5 17.Qa3 Qg5 18.Kb1 Ne4 19.Bxe6+ Bxe6 20.Ndxe6 Bxa3 21.Nxg5 Nxg5 Winawer Miscellaneous-Kujala,A (ol) 116/(38) 2012 22.bxa3 Ne4 23.Rd4 Surveyabersicht-7. --- 1998]

[7.f4 Ne4 8.Ng3 Nxg3 9.hxg3 c5 10.Nf3 Nc6 11.Bd3 f5 12.Ng5 Nxd4 13.c3 Nc6 14.Nxh7 Rg8 15.g4 Qe7 16.gxf5 exf5 17.Bb5 Be6 18.Qa4 Qd7 19.Be3 Be7 20.0-0-0 a6 21.Ng5 Bxg5 ½-½ Ocampo Vargas,R-Ibarra Chami,L MEX-ch Nacional Absoluto 2002 (4)]

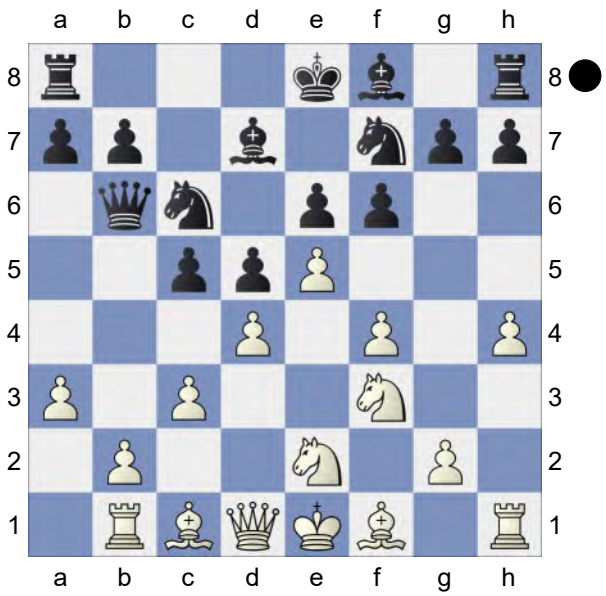
7...Nf7= 8.f4 c5 9.Nf3 The position is equal. **9...Nc6 10.c3 Qb6 11.a3** -0.41/19

[11.Qb3= 0.21/17]

11...Bd7∓ 12.Rb1 -1.09/20

[12.b4= -0.29/18]

(Diagram)

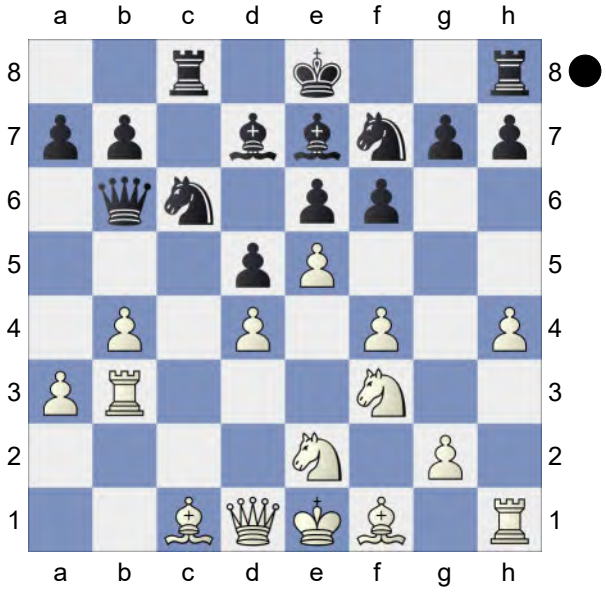


12...Rc8 -0.27/19

[12...cxd4!∓ -1.09/20 13.Nexd4 Nxd4 14.cxd4 Bxa3]

13.b4 cxd4 14.cxd4 Be7 15.Rb3 -1.11/19

[15.Qd3∓ -0.42/17]



15...0-0!∓ 16.Be3 -1.37/20

[White should play 16.g3!∓ -0.35/15]

16...Nh6 -0.64/17

[16...a5∓ -1.37/20 17.f5 a4 *(17...fxe5 18.dxe5 Qd8 19.Nf4∓; 17...exf5 18.Nf4∓)*]

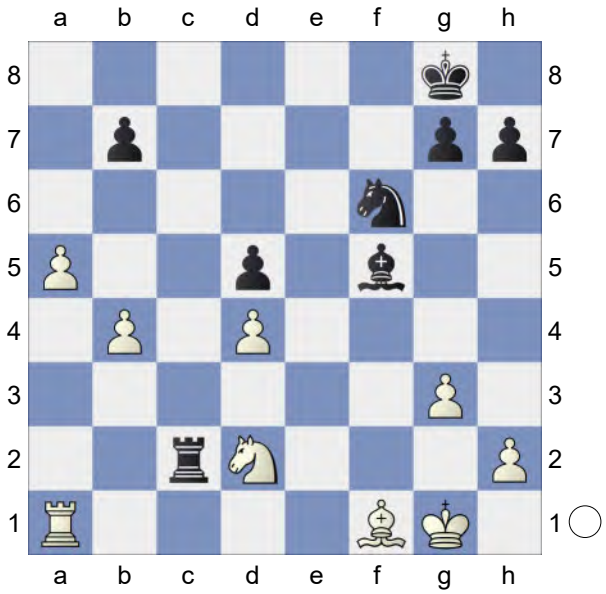
17.g3!∓ Ng4 -0.64/19
[17...a5∓ -1.06/18 Hoping for ...a4. 18.bxa5 Qa7 *(18...Qxa5+ 19.Bd2∓)*]
18.Bh3 Nxe3 -0.05/19
[18...f5∓ -0.89/18]
19.Rxe3= f5! 20.g4! a5 0.01/19
[20...fxg4!∓ -0.58/19 21.Bxg4 Nd8 *(21...a5 22.bxa5 Nxa5 23.Ng5=)*]
21.gxf5 exf5 22.0-0 -1.24/20
[22.b5!= 0.01/20 keeps the balance. Nd8 23.a4]
22...axb4∓ Black is more active. **23.axb4** -1.53/17
[⌓23.Qb1 -1.05/19]
23...Nxb4 24.Ng3 -2.58/17
[24.Rf2∓ -1.26/17 was worth a try.]
24...Be6? -0.08/18
[Black should try 24...Qh6-+ -2.58/17 25.Rb3 Ba4 Skewer *(25...Qxf4? 26.Nh2-+; 25...Bxh4 26.Nxh4 Qxh4 27.Qh5=)* 26.Nxf5 Qg6+ *(26...Qxf4? 27.Nxe7+ Kh8 28.Nxc8+-)* 27.Ng5 Rxf5 *(27...Bxb3? 28.Nxe7+* Discovered Attack *Kh8 29.Nxg6++-)*]
25.Ng5? -2.44/21
[25.Rb3!= -0.08/18 and White stays safe.]
25...Bxg5-+ 26.hxg5 Rc4↑ Keeping White busy. **27.Nh5?** -10.27/18
[27.Ne2 -1.86/19]
27...Rxd4 Black is clearly winning.
[Not 27...Qxd4 28.Qxd4 Rxd4 29.Rb3∓]
28.Qe2 Rd3 29.Rff3 Rc8 30.Qf2 Rd1+ 31.Bf1 Rcc1 32.Ng3 d4 33.Ra3 Na6 -5.11/20
[⌓33...Rc2 -11.09/20 34.Ne2 Bc4]
34.Ne2 -34.39/22
[⌓34.Rad3 -5.11/20 Qb4 35.Rxd1 Rxd1 36.Nh5]
34...Rxf1+ Weighted Error Value: White=0.85/Black=0.34 **35.Qxf1**
0-1

200 **C11**
□ **Moussard,Jules** **2656**
■ **Garcia Moral Garcia,Jose Daniel**
ESP-chT Rapid (6.4) 24.09.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.Nc3 d5 2.e4 e6 3.d4 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 Be7** is cutting edge theory. ist die Avantgarde der Theorie. **8.Nf3 0-0 9.Be3 Qb6**
[9...f6 10.g3 Qb6 11.Qd2 fxe5 12.dxe5 Rd8 13.Bh3 d4 14.Bf2 d3 15.Nc1 Nf8 16.b3 Qa6 17.a4 b5 18.0-0 Bb7 19.Ra2 b4 *(19...c4 20.axb5 Qxb5 21.bxc4 Qxc4)* 20.c4 Na5 21.Be3 Nxc4 22.bxc4 Qxc4 23.f5 exf5 24.Bxf5 0-1 9.Nd2 a5/ 14. Qc2 Ngf6 15.Bd3 (2730)-Winter (2628) Moscow IT 3rd 1936]
10.Qc1N
[10.Qb3 Na5 11.Qxb6 axb6 #1 Classical Nce2-6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 with 9. Be3]
10...f6 11.g3 The position is equal.
11...cxd4 12.Nexd4 Nxd4 13.Bxd4N
[Vorgänger: 13.Nxd4? -2.34/20 13.Bxd4 0.19 fxe5 14.fxe5 Nxe5 And now ...Ng4 would win. 15.Qd2 -2.47/18 *(⌓15.Be2* -1.79/21 *)* 15...Qxd4 -1.18/23 *(15...Ng4!!-+* -2.47/18 and Black stays clearly on top. aiming for ...Nxe3. *16.Bg1 Qd8)* 16.Bxd4 -1.68/19 *(16.Qxd4∓* -1.18/23 *Nf3+ 17.Kd1 Nxd4 18.cxd4)* 16...Nf3+-+ 17.Kd1 Nxd2 18.Kxd2 Bf6 -1.03/21 *(18...e5-+* -1.66/20 *19.Re1 Bg5+ 20.Be3 Bf6)* 19.Bg2? -4.33/21 *(19.Re1∓* -1.03/21 is tougher.*)* 19...Bxd4 0-1 Turiak,A (1803)-Pereszlenyi,G (1909) SVK-ch Seniors 65 2017 (9)]

13...Bc5 14.exf6 -0.19/22
[⌓14.Be2 0.19/23]
14...Nxf6 0.52/23
[14...Bxd4!= -0.19/22 15.cxd4 Nxf6]
15.Bg2 -0.22/25
[15.Bxc5!± 0.52/23 Qxc5 16.Qd2]
15...Bd7 0.36/25
[15...Bxd4= -0.22/25 16.Nxd4 e5 17.fxe5 Ne4]
16.0-0 Bb5 0.93/24
[16...Rac8= 0.30/23 keeps the balance.]
17.Re1± Black is now going downhill.
17...Rae8 18.Qe3 Bxd4 19.Qxd4 Qa6 20.a4 White is more active. **20...Bd3 21.a5 Be4 22.Bf1** Dodges Qb5 **22...Qd6 23.Nd2** Strongly threatening Nxe4! **23...Bf5** 1.79/20
[23...Qb8± 1.08/24 was necessary.]
24.Qxa7+- e5 2.42/24
[⌓24...h6 1.77/19 25.Qd4 *(25.Qxb7? Qc5+ 26.Kg2 Rb8-+* Skewer *)* 25...Rc8]
25.fxe5
[25.Qxb7 Qc5+ 26.Kg2 Rb8∓]
25...Rxe5 26.Rxe5
[26.Qxb7 Qc5+ 27.Kh1 Rxe1 28.Rxe1 Qf2-+]
26...Qxe5 27.Qd4 Prevents Bg4
[27.Qxb7 Qe3+ 28.Kh1 Qxd2-+]
27...Qxd4+ 28.cxd4 Rc8 29.b4 Rc2

(Diagram)



30.Nf3 Be4 31.Ne5 Bf5 32.b5 White is clearly winning. **32...Rc7 33.b6 Rc8 34.a6 bxa6 35.b7** Threatens to win with Rxa6! **35...Rb8 36.Rxa6** Weighted Error Value: White=0.09 (flawless) /Black=0.40
1-0

201 **C11**
□ **BulletCoach** **2656**
■ **ChainsOfFantasia** **2739**
Blitz 06.02.2025
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Qb6 9.Qd2 Qxb2 10.Rb1 Qa3 11.Bb5! Nxd4 12.Bxd4 a6 13.Bxd7+ Bxd7** White is slightly better. **14.Rb3 Qe7**
[14...Qa5? 15.Bb6+- *(15.Rxb7 Bb4∓)*]
15.Rxb7 aiming for 0-0. **15...Qd8 16.Bb6↑** White is more active. **16...Qc8 17.Rc7 Qd8 18.Qe3** -0.44/20 Dodges Bc5

[18.Qd4!± 0.59/25 Rc8 19.Rxc8 Qxc8 20.0-0 Qc6 21.Rb1 Be7 22.Qe3 0-0 23.Bd4 Rc8 24.Rb6 Qc4 25.Rb7 Qc6 26.Rb6 Qc4 27.Rb7 Qc6 ½-½ Anand,V (2772)-Nakamura,H (2769) Tata Steel-A 75th 2013 (1)]

18...Ba3N 3.12/24

[18...Rc8∓ -0.44/20 keeps the upper hand. 19.Rc6 *(19.Rxc8 Qxc8 20.Qd4 Bb5 21.Nxb5 axb5 22.0-0 Qc4 23.Rb1 Qxd4+ 24.Bxd4 b4 25.Kf1 Kd7 26.c3 bxc3 27.Rb7+ Kc6 28.Rb6+ Kd7 29.Ke2 Ba3 30.Kd3 Ra8 31.Kxc3 Kc7 32.Rb1 Ra4 ½-½ Moussard,J (2661)-Edouard,R (2514) FRA-ch 96th Huy L'Alpe d 2023 (1.1))* 19...Rxc6 *(19...Qh4+ 20.g3=)* 20.Bxd8 Bb4]

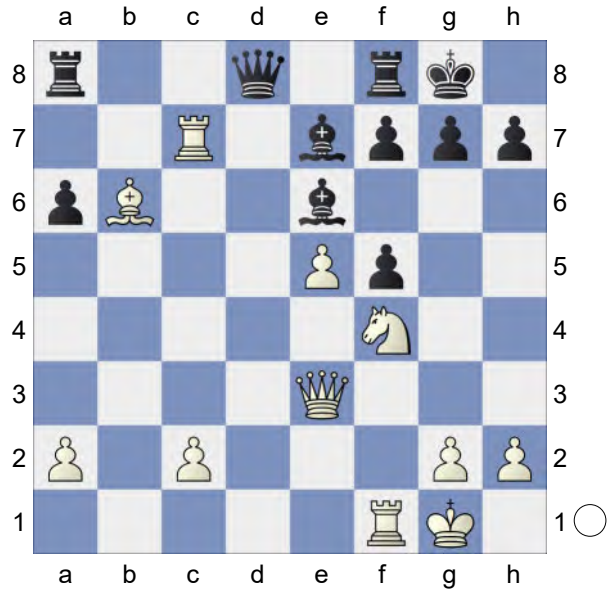
19.0-0+-

[19.Nxd5 0-0±]

19...0-0 20.f5 Deflection **20...exf5** 4.45/26

[20...d4 1.71/22 is a better defense. 21.Qxd4 *(21.Bxd4? Qxc7 22.f6 Rfe8-+)* 21...Bb5 22.Qxd8 Rfxd8 23.Nxb5 axb5]

21.Nxd5 Be6 22.Nf4 Be7



23.h4? -0.31/24 **Rc8 24.Rxc8?** -2.08/21

[24.Ra7= -0.13/21 and White stays safe. Qxb6 Remove Defender 25.Qxb6 Bc5+ 26.Qxc5 Decoy Rxc5 27.Nxe6 fxe6 28.Rb1]

24...Qxc8-+ 25.h5 -2.28/19

[⌓25.Nxe6 -1.72/21 fxe6 *(25...Qxe6 26.Bc5∓)* 26.Qb3]

25...h6 -0.99/20

[25...Bxa2 26.Rf2]

[25...Qxc2-+ -2.28/19 26.h6 Bg5 *(26...Qxa2 27.Bc5∓; 26...Bxa2 27.e6∓; 26...gxh6? 27.Rc1∓)* 27.hxg7 Rb8 *(27...Bxa2? 28.gxf8Q+ Kxf8 29.Rc1+-)*]

26.a4 -3.00/20

[26.Nxe6∓ -0.99/20 fxe6 *(26...Qxe6 27.Bd4∓)* 27.Qb3]

26...Qxc2 27.a5 Rc8 28.Kh2? -5.13/21

[28.Qe2 -2.48/20 Qxe2 29.Nxe2]

28...Bc5 -2.07/21

[⌓28...Bg5 -5.13/21 29.Qf3 Bxf4+ 30.Qxf4 Rc4]

29.Bxc5? -3.71/27

[29.Qd3 -2.07/21 was forced. Qxd3 30.Nxd3]

29...Qxc5

[Not 29...Rxc5 30.Rf2 Qc4 31.Rd2∓]

30.Qg3 -6.59/22

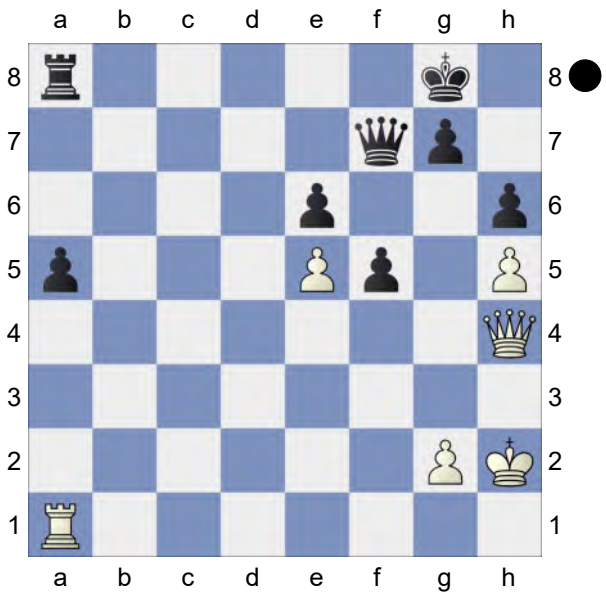
[30.Qxc5 -3.35/25 Rxc5 31.Rb1]

30...Qxa5 31.Nxe6 fxe6 Endgame KQR-KQR. Black is two pawns up. **32.Rd1 Rd8** Prevents Rd7 **33.Rb1** -8.31/22

[⌓33.Rd6 -5.06/27 Rxd6 34.exd6]

33...Qc7 34.Ra1 a5 35.Re1 Qf7 36.Qh4 Ra8 37.Ra1

(Diagram)



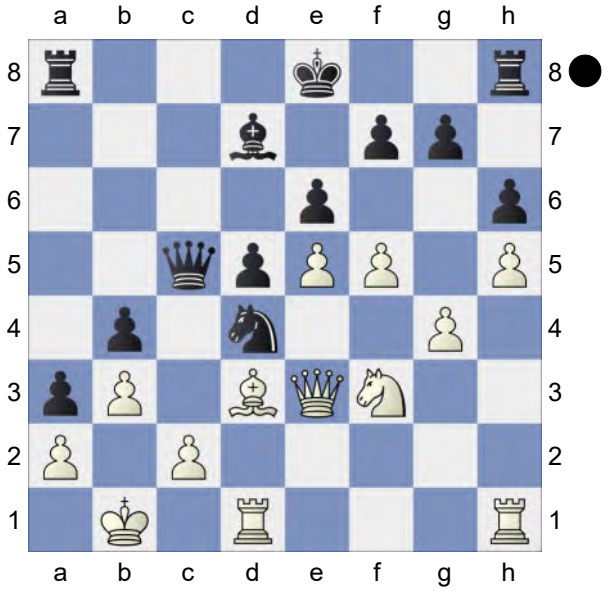
a4! 38.Ra3 Ra5? -1.15/24
[38...Kh7-+ -8.31/22 is more deadly. 39.Rxa4 Rxa4 40.Qxa4 Qxh5+ 41.Kg1 Qg4]
39.Rxa4? -10.61/25
[39.Qd8+∓ -1.15/24 Qf8 40.Qxa5 Qxa3 41.Qa8+ Qf8 *(41...Kh7 42.Qe8∓)* 42.Qxa4]
39...Rxa4 40.Qxa4 Qxh5+∓
KQ-KQ. Black is two pawns up. **41.Kg1 Kh7 42.Qd7 Qg6 43.Qd6 f4**
Hoping for ...f3. **44.Kf2 Qf5 45.Kf3 h5 46.Qb8 Qg4+ 47.Kf2 Qg3+ 48.Kf1 f3 49.gxf3 Qxf3+ 50.Kg1 Qg3+ 51.Kh1 h4?** 0.00/30
[51...Qe1+-+ -33.37/26 52.Kg2 Qe2+ 53.Kh3 Qg4+ 54.Kh2 Kg6]
52.Qf8? -34.14/29
[52.Qg8+= 0.00/30 Kh6 53.Qh7+ Kg5 54.Qg6+ Kf4 55.Qf7+ Kxe5 56.Qxe6+ Kf4 57.Qf6+ Ke3 58.Qd4+ Ke2 59.Qd2+ Kf3 60.Qd1+ Kf4 61.Qd6+ Kg5 62.Qf6+ Kh5 63.Qh6+ Kxh6]
52...Qxe5-+ 53.Kg2 Qf6 54.Qe8
Quite a comeback for Black. Weighted Error Value: White=1.18/Black=0.87
54...Qg6+
0-1

202 **C11**
□ **Pescaderocalvo** **2654**
■ **bananarepublic21** **2814**
Blitz 17.01.2025
[Kitty Kat]

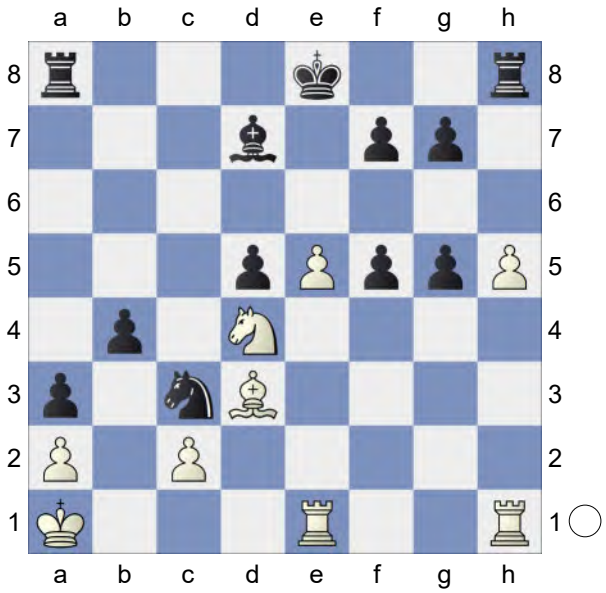
Blitz 3min C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.Qd2 Qb6** 0.66/19
[8...Be7= 0.20/17]
9.Na4N 0.29/19
[9.0-0-0± 0.66/19
A) 9...Qa5 10.dxc5 Nxc5 11.Kb1 b5 12.Nd4 Nxd4 13.Bxd4 b4 14.Ne2 Bd7 15.f5 exf5 16.Nf4 Ne6 17.Nh5 Qc7 18.Be2 Rc8 19.Bf3 Ba4 20.b3 Nxd4 21.Qxd4 Qxc2+ 22.Ka1 Bxb3 23.axb3 Rc5 24.Qxb4 0-1 Aronian,L (2805)-Navara,D (2712) Tata Steel-A 74th 2012 (11);
B) 9...Qc7 10.dxc5 *(10.Kb1 b5 11.f5 c4 12.fxe6 fxe6 13.Be2 Nb6 14.Rdf1 b4 15.Nd1 Na4 16.Ng5 Rb8 17.Bh5+ g6 18.Bg4 Qa5 19.Qf2 Nc3+ 20.Kc1 Rb7 21.Bxe6 Nxa2+ 22.Kd2 c3+ 23.bxc3 Bxe6 24.Qf6 bxc3+* ½-½ Song,Y-Dominguez,C 69/543 Dos Hermanas 1997*)* 10...Bxc5 11.Bxc5 Nxc5 12.Qe3 Qb6 13.Kb1 Bd7 14.Nd4 Nxd4 15.Rxd4 0-0-0 16.Be2 Kb8 17.Rhd1 Rc8 18.f5 Rc7 19.Rg4 g6 20.fxe6 fxe6 21.Rf4 Rhc8 22.Qd4 Be8 23.h4 Rc6 24.Bd3 0-1 Nasuta,G (2518)-Lagarde,M

(2626) 22nd ch-EUR Indiv 2022 (6.29);
C) 9...c4 10.Bxc4 dxc4 11.d5 French-French]

9...Qa7 0.78/17
[9...Qb4= 0.29/19 10.Qxb4 Nxb4]
10.dxc5 Nxc5 White is slightly better.
11.Nxc5 Bxc5 12.Bxc5 Qxc5 13.Bd3 b5 14.0-0-0 Bd7 1.03/18
[Black should try 14...a5± 0.38/18]
15.Kb1± b4 16.h4 a5 17.h5 h6 18.g4 0.23/17
[White should try 18.Rh3± 0.76/19]
18...a4= 19.f5 0.01/16
[19.Rhe1± 0.45/19]
19...a3 20.b3 Nd4 0.42/21
[20...Qc3= 0.01/19 was preferable. 21.Qxc3 bxc3]
21.Qe3 -0.87/19
[21.fxe6!± 0.42/21 keeps the upper hand. Nxe6 22.Bf5]



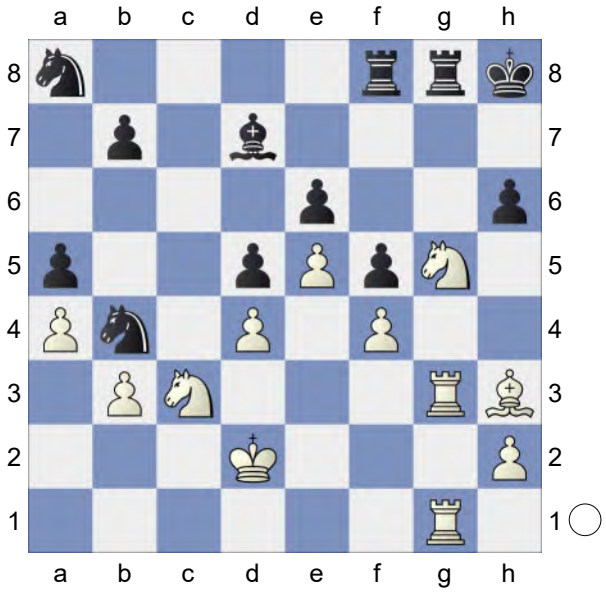
21...Nxb3!∓ Discovered Attack. Black is more active. **22.Qxc5 Nxc5 23.g5?** -4.89/18
[Only move: 23.f6!∓ -0.48/19]
23...Na4? -1.31/21
[23...exf5-+ -4.89/18 24.Rdg1 hxg5 25.Rxg5 g6]
This costs White the game. **24.Rde1?** -3.86/21
[24.fxe6∓ -1.31/21 was the only chance. Bxe6 25.Rdg1]
24...Nc3+ 25.Ka1 exf5 26.Nd4? -5.39/20
[26.g6 -2.77/18]
26...hxg5-+



Black is clearly winning. **27.Bxf5 Bxf5 28.Nxf5 0-0 29.h6** -7.08/19
[⌓29.Rhg1 -4.85/20 Ne4 30.Ne7+ Kh7 31.Nxd5]
29...g6 30.h7+ Kh8 31.Nd6 Ra7 32.Ref1 Re7 Strongly threatening ...f5!.
33.Rf6 Ne4
[Not 33...Rxe5 34.Nxf7+ Rxf7 *(34...Kg7? 35.Nxe5 Kxf6 36.Nd7+ Kf5 37.Nxf8+-)* 35.Rxf7=]
34.Nxe4 Weighted Error Value: White=1.06/Black=0.56 **34...dxe4**
0-1

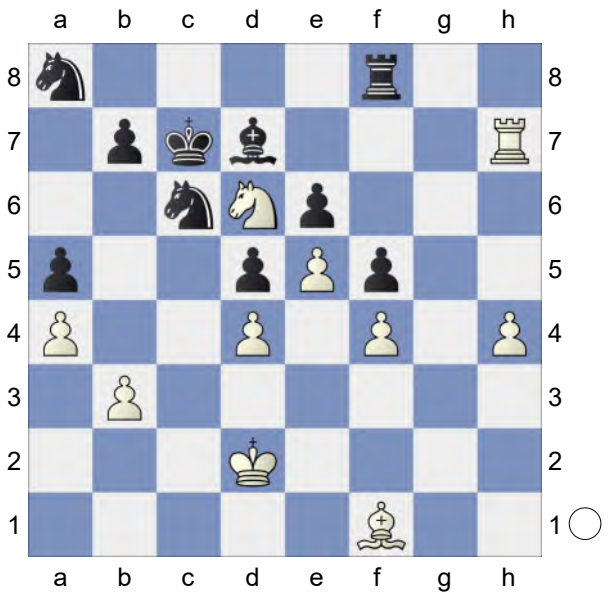
203 **C05**
□ **Nasybullin,Vladislav** **2653**
■ **Selikhanovich,Artem** **2575**
49/110 Moscow (2.3) 19.07.2016
[Kitty Kat]

C05: French Tarrasch: 3...Nf6 4 e5 Nfd7, 5 f4 and 5 Bd3 sidelines Roiz,Michael: 'Roiz,M: 'Inf 89/(259)" **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nce2 Nc6 7.c3 Qb6 8.Nf3 Be7 9.g3 0-0 10.Bh3 cxd4 11.cxd4 f6! 12.Rf1N**
[12.0-0 fxe5 13.Bxe6+ Kh8 14.f5 e4 15.Ne1 Nde5 16.Bxd5 Bxf5 17.Qb3 Nxd4 18.Nxd4 Qxd4+ 19.Be3 Qb4 Sokolov,A (2584)-Roiz,M (2549) 89/(259) Plovdiv 2003]
[12.Bxe6+ Kh8 13.exf6 Nxf6 14.Bxc8 Bb4+ 15.Bd2 Bxd2+ 16.Qxd2 Ne4 17.Qc2 Raxc8 18.Nc3 Nxd4 19.Nxd4 Qxd4 20.Rf1 Rfe8 0-1 10.e5 ♘h5 11.a4_6754 (1800)-Kretschmer,M (1877) 88/(212) Budapest 2003]
12...Bb4+ 13.Bd2 Kh8 14.Bxb4 White is slightly better.
[14.Bxe6 Ndxe5 15.Nxe5 fxe5 *(15...Bxe6 16.Nxc6 bxc6 17.f5∓)* 16.Bxc8 Raxc8 17.dxe5 Bxd2+ 18.Qxd2 Nb4-+]
14...Qxb4+ 15.Qd2 Nb6 16.b3 Against Nc4 **16...Bd7** 0.82/22
[16...a5± 0.44/21 is more appropriate.]
17.Qxb4± Nxb4 18.Kd2 Wards off Nc2 **18...a5 19.a3 Nc6 20.a4! Rac8 21.Rac1** 0.59/21
[21.Nc3± 0.96/21]
21...f5 0.96/23
[21...Na8± 0.59/21]
22.g4
[22.Nc3 keeps more tension. Nb4 23.Rh1 Kg8 24.Bf1]
22...g6 23.gxf5 gxf5 24.Rg1 Nb4 25.Nc3 Rg8 26.Rg3
[26.Rxg8+ simplifies Rxg8 27.Bf1 Rc8 28.Be2]
26...Na8 1.66/21
[26...h6± 0.55/22]
27.Ng5!+- Rcf8 Prevents Nf7+.
28.Rcg1 1.22/19
[28.Bf1!+- 1.69/23 Rh3 is the strong threat. h6 29.Rh3]
28...h6±

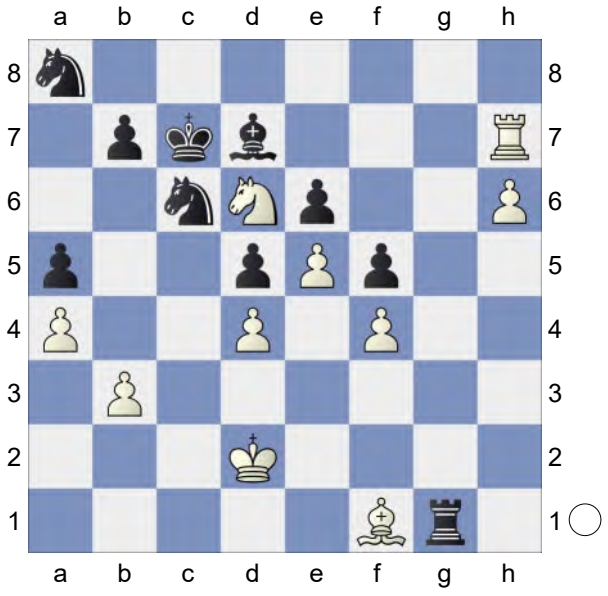


29.Bf1 0.69/21 **hxg5± 30.Rh3+ Kg7 31.Rxg5+ Kf7 32.Rh7+** White has compensation. **32...Ke8 33.Nb5 Kd8 34.Nd6** aiming for h4. **34...Kc7 35.h4!** Threatens to win with h5.
[35.Nb5+ Kd8=]
35...Rh8 36.Rgg7 Dancing on a razor blade. White is much more active. **36...Rxh7 37.Rxh7 Nc6**

(Diagram)



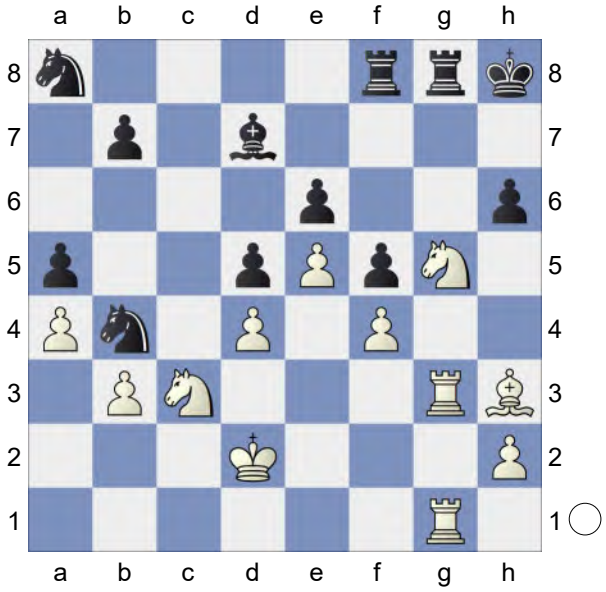
38.h5 0.61/24
[38.Bb5!± 1.08/25]
38...Rg8 1.33/25
[38...Nxd4?! 39.Kc3 Nc6 40.h6 d4+ 41.Kd2+-]
[Better is 38...Nb6!± 0.61/24]
39.h6 Rg1 2.05/20
[39...Nxd4± 1.08/23 40.Kc3 Nc6]



40.Bb5!+- Rh1 41.Nf7? 0.17/23
[White should try 41.Ke3+- 1.95/20]
41...Nxd4= Discovered Attack, Double Attack **42.Bxd7** -1.09/19
[42.Ng5!= 0.17/23 was the only way to keep the balance. Nb6 *(42...Nxb3+ 43.Ke3=)* 43.Ke3 Nxb5 *(43...Nxb3 44.Nxe6+ Kb8 45.Bxd7±)* 44.axb5]
42...Kxd7∓ 43.Rg7? -3.53/20
[43.Kc3∓ -0.74/20 Ne2+ 44.Kd2 Nxf4 45.Rg7]
43...Nxb3+-+ 44.Kc2 Nc5 Strongly threatening ...Nb6! **45.h7** Hoping for Nh6+. **45...Rh2+**
[45...Nxa4 46.Nh6+ *(46.h8R? Rxh8 47.Nxh8+ Kc6-+)* 46...Kc6 47.h8Q+- *(47.h8R? N8b6-+)*]
46.Kd1 And now Nh6+ would win.
46...Rh1+
[46...Nxa4? 47.Nh6+ *(47.h8R? Rxh8 48.Nxh8+ Kc6-+)* 47...Kc6 48.h8Q+- *(48.h8R? N8b6-+)*]
47.Ke2 Rh2+
[47...Nxa4? 48.Nh6+ *(48.h8R? Rxh8 49.Nxh8+ Kc6-+)* 48...Kc6 49.h8Q+- *(49.h8B? Rxh6 50.Rg8 Nc3+ 51.Kf3 Nc7-+)*]
48.Kf3 Nb6?? 5.04/25
[48...Nxa4? perishes. 49.Nh6+ *(49.h8R?* is the wrong capture. *Rxh8 50.Nxh8+ Kc6-+; 49.Kg3 Rxh7 50.Rxh7 Nc5∓)* 49...Kc6 50.h8Q+- *(50.h8R Nc5=)*]
[48...Kc6!-+ -1.78/22 White must now prevent ...Nc7! 49.h8R Rxh8 50.Nxh8 Nxa4 *(50...Nb6 51.Nf7=)*]
49.Nh6+ Weighted Error Value: White=0.36/Black=0.32
[Not 49.h8R Rxh8 50.Nxh8+ Kc6=]
1-0

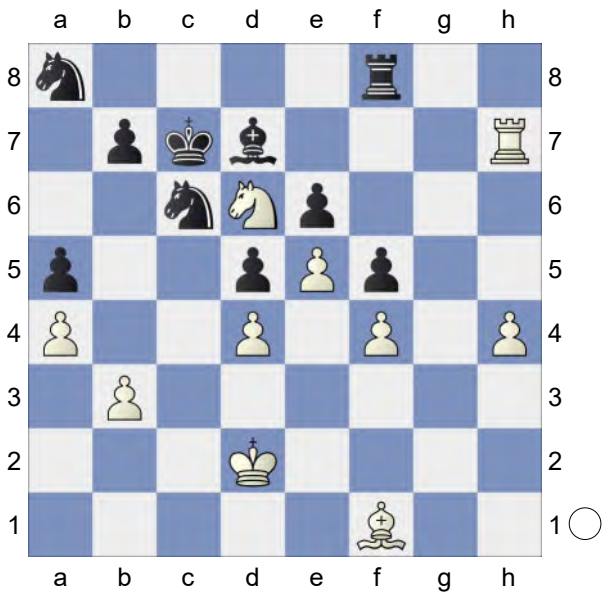
204 **C05**
□ **Hou,Yifan** **2653**
■ **Koneru,Humpy** **2575**
1st Silk Road Rapid 2016 (2.3) 19.07.2016
[Kitty Kat]

C05: French Tarrasch: 3...Nf6 4 e5 Nfd7, 5 f4 and 5 Bd3 sidelines Roiz,Michael: 'Roiz,M: 'Inf 89/(259)" **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nce2 Nc6 7.c3 Qb6 8.Nf3 Be7 9.g3 0-0 10.Bh3 cxd4 11.cxd4 f6 12.Rf1N**
[12.0-0 fxe5 13.Bxe6+ Kh8 14.f5 e4 15.Ne1 Nde5 16.Bxd5 Bxf5 17.Qb3 Nxd4 18.Nxd4 Qxd4+ 19.Be3 Qb4 Sokolov,A (2584)-Roiz,M (2549) 89/(259) Plovdiv 2003]
[12.Bxe6+ Kh8 13.exf6 Nxf6 14.Bxc8 Bb4+ 15.Bd2 Bxd2+ 16.Qxd2 Ne4 17.Qc2 Raxc8 18.Nc3 Nxd4 19.Nxd4 Qxd4 20.Rf1 Rfe8 0-1 10.e5 ♘h5 11.a4_6754 (1800)-Kretschmer,M (1877) 88/(212) Budapest 2003]
12...Bb4+ 13.Bd2 Kh8 14.Bxb4 White is slightly better.
[14.Bxe6 Ndxe5 15.dxe5 Bxe6 16.Bxb4 Nxb4-+ *(16...Qxb4+? 17.Qd2∓)*]
14...Qxb4+ 15.Qd2 Nb6 16.b3 Against Nc4 **16...Bd7** 0.93/21
[16...a5± 0.53/21 might be stronger.]
17.Qxb4± Nxb4 18.Kd2 Prevents Nc2. **18...a5 19.a3 Nc6 20.a4! Rac8 21.Rac1**
[21.Nc3 keeps more tension. Nb4 22.Rfc1 Rc6 23.Nb5]
21...f5 22.g4
[22.Nc3 seems wilder. Nb4 23.Rh1 Kg8 24.Bf1]
22...g6 23.gxf5 gxf5 24.Rg1 Nb4 25.Nc3 Rg8 26.Rg3
[26.Rg5 with more complications. h6 27.Rh5 Kh7 28.Bf1]
26...Na8 1.61/21
[26...h6± 0.60/23]
27.Ng5!+- Rcf8 2.01/27 Against Nf7+
[27...Rg6± 1.57/23 28.Nf7+ Kg7]
28.Rcg1 Threatening mate with Nf7+!
28...h6

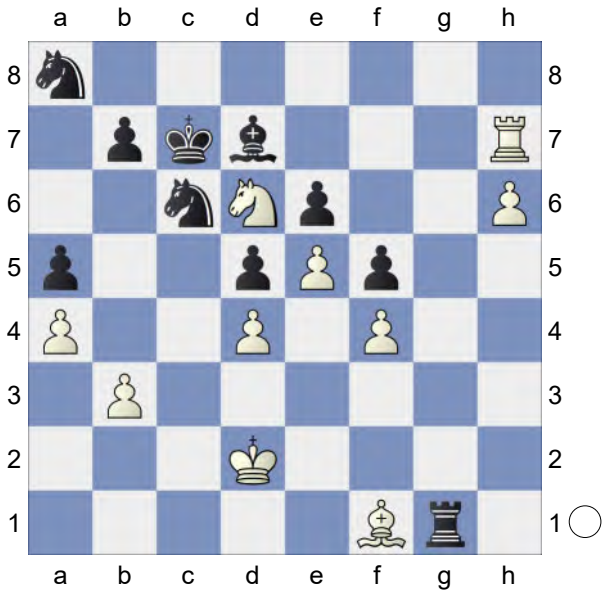


29.Bf1! 0.82/20 **hxg5± 30.Rh3+ Kg7 31.Rxg5+ Kf7** aiming for ...Rh8. **32.Rh7+** White has compensation. **32...Ke8 33.Nb5** Nd6+ would now be deadly. **33...Kd8 34.Nd6 Kc7 35.h4!**
[35.Nb5+?! Kc6= *(35...Kd8 36.Nd6=)*]
35...Rh8 36.Rgg7 Chess con chili. White has more active pieces. **36...Rxh7 37.Rxh7 Nc6** 1.32/25
[37...Nb6± 0.69/24]

(Diagram)



38.h5 0.56/23
[White should try 38.Bb5!± 1.32/25]
38...Rg8 1.21/24
[38...Nxd4?! 39.Kc3 Nc6 40.h6+-]
[38...Nb6!± 0.56/23]
39.h6 Black must now prevent Rf7.
39...Rg1 2.27/23
[39...Nxd4± 1.21/22 40.Kc3 Rg1 *(40...Nc6 41.Rf7±)*]

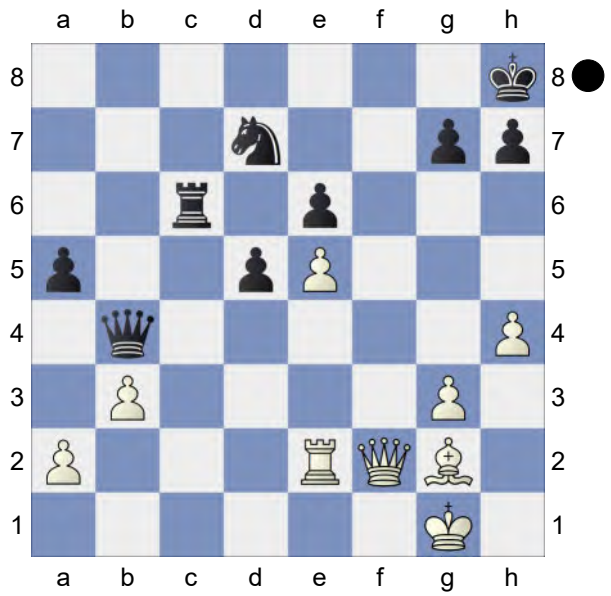


40.Bb5!+- And now Rf7 would win.
40...Rh1 41.Nf7? 0.04/22
[White should play 41.Ke3+- 2.08/20]
41...Nxd4= 42.Bxd7 -1.35/19
[42.Ng5!= 0.04/22 was the only way to keep the balance. Nxb3+ 43.Ke3 d4+ 44.Kf3]
42...Kxd7∓ 43.Rg7? -3.33/22
[43.Kc3∓ -0.75/19 Ne2+ 44.Kd2 Nxf4 45.Rg7]
43...Nxb3+-+ 44.Kc2 Nc5 45.h7 Rh2+
[45...Nxa4? 46.Nh6+ *(46.h8R? Rxh8 47.Nxh8+ Kc6-+)* 46...Kc6 47.h8Q+- *(47.h8R? Rh2+ 48.Kc1 Rh1+ 49.Kd2 N8b6-+)*]
46.Kd1 Hoping for Nh6+. **46...Rh1+**
[46...Nxa4? 47.Nh6+ *(47.h8R Rxh8 48.Nxh8+ Kc6∓)* 47...Kc6 48.h8Q+- *(48.h8R? N8b6-+)*]
47.Ke2 Strongly threatening Nh6+.
47...Rh2+
[47...Nxa4? 48.Nh6+ *(48.h8R? Rxh8 49.Nxh8+ Kc6-+)* 48...Kc6 49.h8Q+- *(49.h8B? Rxh6 50.Rg8 N8b6-+)*]
48.Kf3 Threatens to win with Nh6+.
48...Nb6?? 5.31/25
[48...Nxa4? too greedy. 49.Nh6+ *(49.h8R? Rxh8 50.Nxh8+ Kc6-+; 49.Kg3? Rxh7 50.Rxh7 Nc5-+)* 49...Kc6 50.h8Q+- *(50.h8R Nc7=)*]
[48...Kc6!-+ -1.63/23 ...Nc7! is the strong threat. 49.h8Q Rxh8 50.Nxh8 Nxa4 *(50...Nb6 51.Nf7=)*]
49.Nh6+ Weighted Error Value: White=0.33/Black=0.38
[Not 49.h8R Rxh8 50.Nxh8+ Ke8= *(50...Kc6 51.Nf7=)*]
1-0

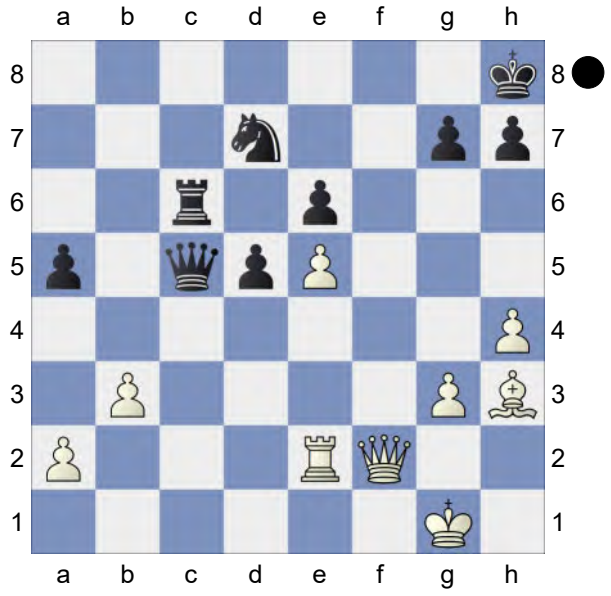
205 **C11**
□ **Hou,Yifan** **2652**
■ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2807**
chess.com Speed 5m+2spm 2017 (1.4)
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Be7 8.Qd2 a6 9.g3** -0.25/20
[9.Bd3± 0.40/21]
[9.a3 0-0 10.dxc5 Nxc5 11.Qf2 b6 12.b4 Nd7 13.Bd3 f6 14.Qg3 d4 15.0-0-0 dxe3 16.Bxh7+ Kxh7 17.Qh3+ Kg8 18.Qxe6+ Kh8 19.Qxc6 Ra7 20.Nh4 Qe8 21.Nd5 Kh7 22.Nxe7 Qxe7 23.Nf5 Nxe5 1-0 Kramnik,V (2808)-Meier,G (2654) Olympiad-42 Baku 2016 (6.2)]
9...b5= 10.Ne2N
[10.Bg2 b4 11.Ne2 a5 12.0-0 g6 13.dxc5 Ba6 14.Rf2 Rc8 15.Ned4 Nxd4 16.Nxd4 Nxc5 17.Nb3 Nd7 18.Nd4 Qc7 19.g4 Nc5 20.Nb3 Ne4 21.Bxe4 dxe4 22.Rg2 0-0 23.g5 Rfd8 24.Qe1 a4 0-1 Pattnayak,N (2154)-Yarar,B (2365) Abu Dhabi op-A 30th 2024 (3)]
10...b4 11.Bh3 The position is equal.
11...a5 12.0-0 0-0 13.c3 -0.58/20
[13.Rf2= -0.22/19]
13...Nb6 -0.17/23
[13...Rb8∓ -0.58/20]
14.b3 -1.10/23
[14.Bf2!= -0.17/23 keeps the balance.]
14...bxc3 -0.60/23
[14...c4∓ -1.10/23]
15.Nxc3 Ba6 0.20/22
[15...c4!∓ -0.70/21]
16.Rf2 cxd4 0.46/22
[16...Nd7= 0.01/25]
17.Nxd4± Nxd4 18.Bxd4 Rc8 0.80/23
[18...Nd7± 0.36/24]
19.Qe3 0.06/25
[19.f5± 0.80/23 Bg5 20.Qe1]
19...Rc6 0.61/23
[19...Nd7= 0.06/25]
20.Rd1 -0.01/24
[20.a4!± 0.61/23]
20...Nd7 21.f5 Bg5 22.Qe1 Qc7 23.Bg2 Threatening a4. **23...Kh8! 24.h4** -0.40/24
[24.fxe6= 0.29/24 fxe6 25.Rxf8+ Nxf8 26.Bf1]
24...Be7∓ 25.Qe3 Bc5 26.Bxc5 -0.80/25
[26.Ne2∓ -0.36/26]
26...Rxc5∓ 27.Na4 Rc6 -0.58/22
[27...Rc2∓ -1.19/27 28.fxe6 fxe6 *(28...Qxe5? 29.Qxe5 Nxe5 30.e7+-)* 29.Rxf8+ Nxf8]
28.Re1 -1.42/22
[White should try 28.fxe6∓ -0.58/22 fxe6 29.Rxf8+ Nxf8 30.Kh2]
28...Bb5 29.Qf4 -1.75/21
[29.fxe6∓ -0.71/22 fxe6 30.Rxf8+ Nxf8 31.h5]
29...Qd8? -0.10/24
[29...g6-+ -1.75/21 30.f6 Bxa4 31.bxa4 *(31.Bf1? Bxb3 32.axb3 Rc3-+)* 31...Rc4]
30.Qd4 Qe7 31.Nc3 Ba6 32.fxe6 -0.37/26
[32.Ne2= 0.01/23 was preferable.]
32...fxe6∓ 33.Rxf8+ Qxf8 34.Ne2 -1.18/27
[34.Bh3= -0.26/23]
34...Bxe2!∓ 35.Rxe2 Qb4 -0.19/24
[35...Qc5∓ -1.21/27 36.Qxc5 Rxc5]
36.Qf2 -1.32/25
[36.Qf4!= -0.19/24]

(Diagram)



36...Qc5! Black is more active. **37.Bh3**



Hoping for Qxc5. **37...Qxf2+ 38.Kxf2** Endgame KRB-KRN **38...Kg8 39.Ke3** -2.13/25
[39.Ke1∓ -1.11/24]
39...Kf7 -0.97/24
[39...Nxe5-+ -2.13/25 has better winning chances. Strongly threatening ...Kf7. 40.Rf2 g5 41.hxg5 Nf7]
40.Kd4? -2.82/24
[40.Kd2∓ -0.97/24 was worth a try.]
40...Ke7-+ 41.Rb2? -4.14/25
[41.Bg4 -2.20/23]
41...Rc1 42.Re2 Nb8
[42...Rd1+ 43.Kc3-+]
43.Kd3 Nc6 44.Kd2 Rg1 45.Bg2 Nd4
[45...Nxe5 46.Bxd5 exd5 47.Rxe5+ Kd6 48.Rg5∓]
46.Rf2 Ra1
[46...Nf5 47.Bxd5 exd5 48.Rxf5∓]
47.Kc3 Nf5 -0.09/20
[Black should play 47...Nc6-+ -3.57/22 48.Re2 Rg1]
48.g4? -5.73/21
[48.Bxd5!= -0.09/20 and White has nothing to worry. Nxg3 49.Rg2]
48...Nxh4 49.Kd4 Re1 50.a3? -6.25/22
[50.Bf1 -2.90/19]
50...Nxg2 Black is clearly winning.
51.Rxg2 KR-KR. Black is a pawn up.
51...Re4+ 52.Kc5 Rxe5 53.b4 axb4 54.axb4 Re4 55.b5 Rc4+ 56.Kb6 d4 57.Ka7 e5 58.b6 Kd6 59.b7 Ra4+ 60.Kb6 Rb4+ 61.Ka7 e4 62.b8Q+ Rxb8 63.Kxb8 d3 64.Rd2 Ke5 65.Kc7 Kd4 66.Kd6 e3 67.Rh2 Weighted Error Value: White=0.68/ Black=0.44 **67...e2**
0-1

206 **C11**
□ **Bologan,Viktor** **2650**
■ **Roiz,Michael** **2554**
EU-Cup 19th Rethymno (6.2) 03.10.2003
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 Qb6 8.Nf3 Be7 9.a3 0-0 10.Ng3** -0.28/27
[White should play 10.b4!± 0.46/21]
10...cxd4 11.cxd4 f6 Threatens to win with ...fxe5. Black has an edge. **12.Bd3 fxe5**

[12...Nxd4 looks sharper. 13.Nxd4 fxe5 14.Be3 exd4 15.Bxd4 Nc5]

13.dxe5

[13.fxe5 g6 *(13...Rxf3 14.gxf3 Qxd4 15.f4∓)* 14.Bc2 Rxf3 15.gxf3 Nxd4∓ *(15...Qxd4 16.f4=)*]

13...Nc5 14.Bc2 Prevents Nb3 **14...a5** 0.35/21

[14...Rd8= -0.20/24]

15.Be3± Qxb2 Strongly threatening ...d4! **16.0-0** Black must now prevent Kh1. **16...Qc3N** Deflection **17.Bf2** Qb1 is the strong threat. **17...Qc4**

[17...Rxf4 18.Ne2 Qc4 19.Nd2 Nxe5 20.Nxc4+-]

18.Kh1 -0.50/20

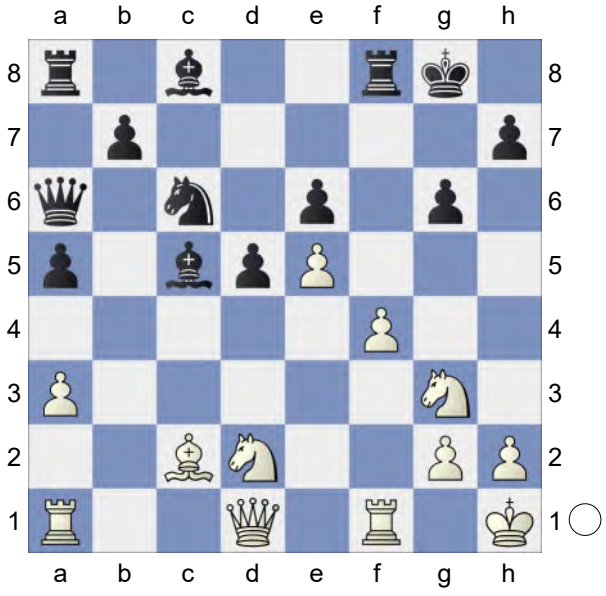
[White should try 18.Nd4= 0.22/22]

18...g6? 1.65/19 This move loses the game for Black.

[18...Rxf4? loses. 19.Rc1 Ne4 20.Bxe4+-]

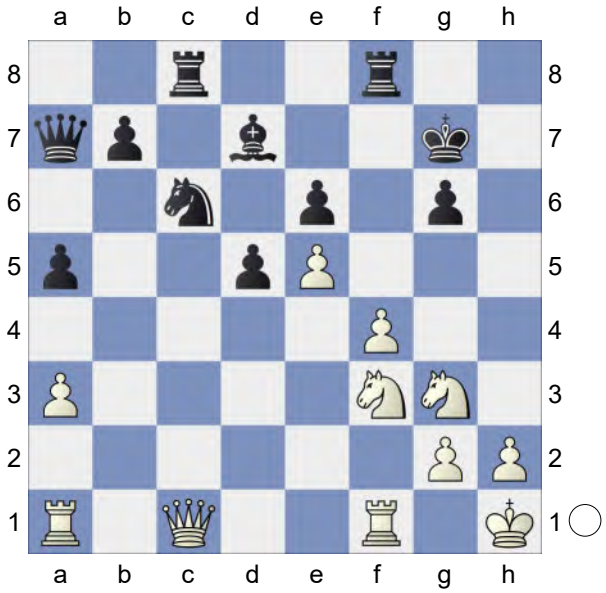
[18...Qxf4∓ -0.50/20 19.Bxh7+ Kxh7 20.Bxc5 Bxc5 21.Qc2+ Kg8 22.Qxc5 Qg4 *(22...Nxe5? is the wrong capture. 23.Nxe5+-)*]

19.Nd2+- Qa6 20.Bxc5 Bxc5



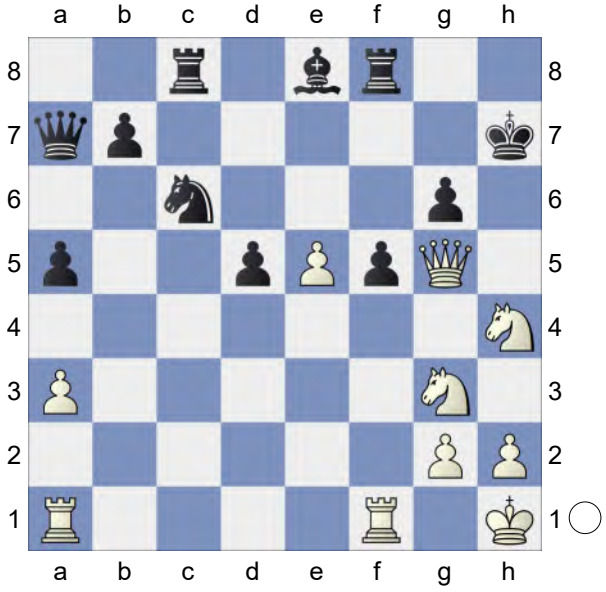
21.Bxg6! hxg6 22.Qc2! Kg7 ...b6 would now be deadly. **23.Qxc5 Qa7 24.Qc1 Bd7 25.Nf3** And now f5! would win. **25...Rac8?** 4.99/19

[25...Ne7 1.66/22 26.Qd2 Rac8]



26.f5! exf5 27.Qg5 Kh7 28.Nh4 Be8 8.61/20

[28...Nxe5 3.48/16 29.Qe7+ Rf7 30.Qxe5 Qc5]

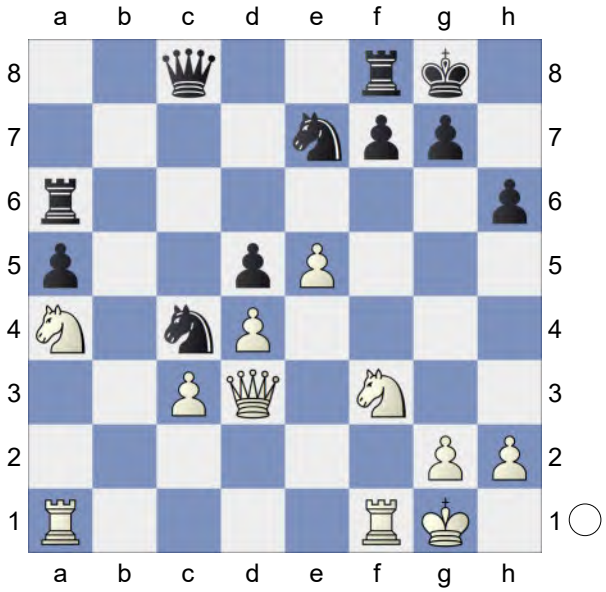


29.Ngxf5! gxf5 30.Nxf5 b5 31.Rf4 Weighted Error Value: White=0.28 (precise) /Black=0.61

1-0

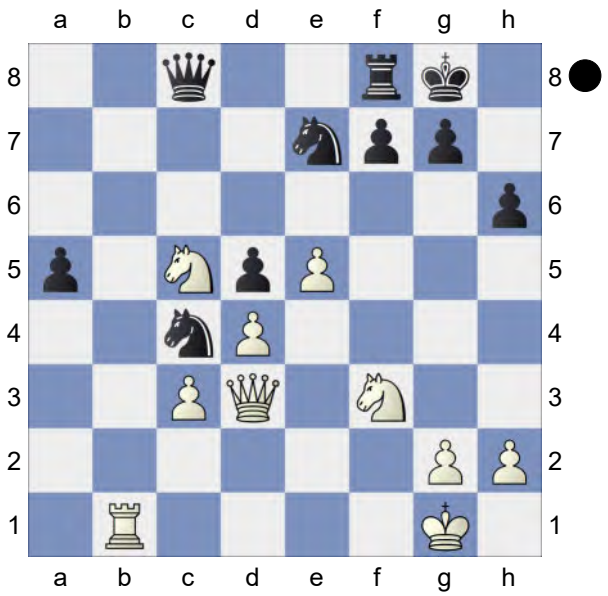
207 **C11**
□ **Henderson de la Fuente,Lance** **2650**
■ **Amin,Bassem** **2699**
Chess.com INT blitz (5) 01.10.2019
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 CORNERING THE FRENCH BISHOP In most cases the French B is a surprisingly useful piece, fulfilling important defensive and even counter-attacking tasks. It's only in the endgame that the problems with the piece start, as Dominguez showed in the following game. **1.d4 e6 2.e4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Be7 8.Qd2 0-0 9.Be2 a6 10.0-0 b5 11.a3** White is slightly better. **11...b4N**
[11...Qb6 12.Nd1 *(12.Kh1 Bb7 13.Rad1 cxd4 14.Nxd4 Nxd4 15.Bxd4 Bc5 16.Qe3 Bxd4 17.Qxd4 Qxd4 18.Rxd4 f6 19.exf6 gxf6 20.Bg4 f5 21.Bf3 Rac8 22.Rc1 Nc5 23.Kg1 Rc7 24.Kf2 Ne4+ 25.Bxe4 fxe4 26.Ke3 Rg7* ½-½ Fedorov,A (2564)-Asrian,K (2597) (ol) 86/305 Bled 2002 *)* 12...a5 13.c3 Ba6 *(13...a4)* 14.dxc5 Bxc5 15.b4 Bxe3+ 16.Qxe3 Qxe3+ 17.Nxe3 Rfc8 18.a4 3 Chapter5Sol-Game Chapter5sol Game]
[11...Qc7 12.dxc5 Bxc5 13.Bxc5 Nxc5 14.Rad1 Bb7 15.Qe3 Nd7 16.Bd3 Qb6 17.Qxb6 Nxb6 18.Ne2 Rac8 19.b3 f6 20.Ned4 Nxd4 21.Nxd4 fxe5 22.fxe5 Rxf1+ 23.Rxf1 Re8 24.Be2 Nd7 25.Bg4 Nf8 26.Rf3 1-0 Dominguez Perez,L (2710)-Le,Q (2717) 5th SPICE Cup GpA 2011 (5)]
12.axb4 cxb4 13.Na4 a5 0.78/21
[13...Nb6± 0.35/19]
14.c4 0.33/21 White is more active.
[14.Bb5± 0.78/21 Qc7 15.c4]
14...bxc3!± 15.bxc3 Ba6 0.75/19 Wards off Bb5
[15...Nb6!= 0.23/20]
16.Bxa6± Rxa6 17.f5 exf5 18.Qd3 Qc8 19.Qxf5 0.12/21
[19.Rfb1± 0.49/19]
19...Nb6= 20.Qd3 Nc4 0.74/18
[20...Nxa4= 0.01/20 21.Rxa4 h6]
21.Bg5!± h6 0.86/21
[21...Ra7± 0.40/21]
22.Bxe7 Nxe7

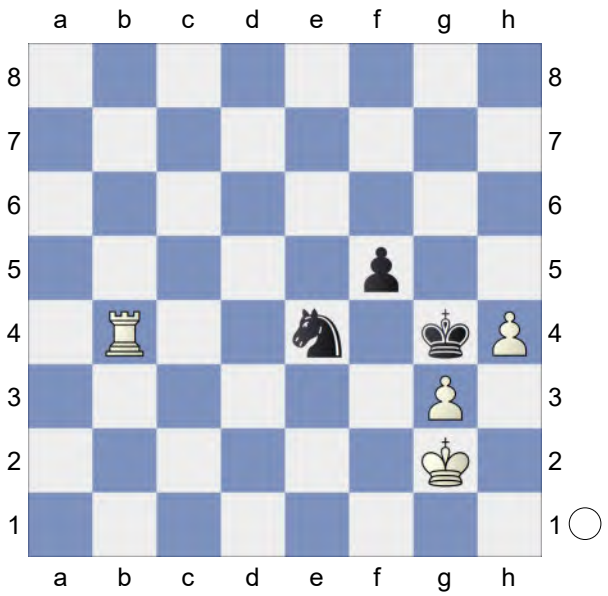


23.Nc5 -0.01/21
[23.Nd2!± 0.76/19]
23...Rb6 24.Rfb1 -0.41/21
[24.Rf2= 0.01/20 was preferable.]
24...Rxb1+∓ 25.Rxb1 -1.60/21
[25.Qxb1= -0.21/22 was the only way to keep the balance. Qg4 26.h3]

(Diagram)



25...Nc6? -0.01/22
[Black should try 25...Ng6!∓ -1.60/21 Strongly threatening ...Nf4. 26.Re1 Nf4]
26.Na4 Qc7 27.Nd2↑ White has some pressure. **27...Nxd2 28.Qxd2 Rb8 29.Rf1 Nd8 30.Nc5** This move loses the game for Black. **30...Ne6?** 5.74/25
[30...Rc8= -0.09/24]
31.Na6!+- Qb6 32.Nxb8 Qxb8 Endgame KQR-KQN **33.Qa2 Qc7 34.Rf3 Ng5 35.Re3 Ne4** 8.55/21
[⌓35...Qb6 4.15/20 36.Re1 *(36.Qxd5 Qb1+ 37.Kf2 Qf5+ 38.Ke1 Qc2+-)* 36...Qg6]
36.Qxd5 Qa8+ is the strong threat. **36...Nxc3 37.Qc5 Qxc5 38.dxc5** KR-KN **38...Nd5 39.Ra3 Kf8 40.Rxa5 Ke7 41.Ra6 Nb4 42.Rd6 f6 43.exf6+ gxf6 44.Kf2 Na2 45.Rd3 Nb4 46.Rh3 Ke6 47.Rxh6 Nd3+ 48.Ke3 Nxc5 49.Rh5 Nd7 50.Rb5 Ne5 51.h4** 10.23/19
[⌓51.Rxe5+ 33.72/23 Kxe5 52.Kf3]
51...Kf5 52.g3 Kg4 53.Kf2 8.73/20
[⌓53.Rxe5 33.78/24 fxe5 54.Ke4]
53...Nd3+ 54.Kg2 f5 55.Rb3 Nc5 56.Rb4+ Ne4



57.Rxe4+! fxe4 58.Kf2 Kf5 Weighted Error Value: White=0.33/Black=0.77
59.Ke3
1-0

208 **C11**
□ **Santos Latasa,Jaime** **2650**
■ **Bluebaum,Matthias** **2668**
Bundesliga 2324 (7.3) 03.02.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.Ne2 Qb6 9.Qc1 Be7 10.c3** White is slightly better. **10...0-0 11.h4! f6 12.h5 h6 13.Rh3 Qa5**
[13...Rf7 14.a3 cxd4 15.cxd4 Na5 16.Qc2 Nc4 17.Bc1 Qa5+ 18.Kd1 fxe5 19.fxe5 Ndb6 20.b3 Bd7 21.Qc3 Qxc3 22.Nxc3 Na5 23.Kc2 Rc8 24.Kb2 Na8 25.Bd3 b5 26.Ne2 Be8 27.Bd2 Nc6 28.Rg3 1-0 Gurel,E (2624)-Vaishali,R (2476) Tata Steel-B 87th 2025 (12)]
14.Bd2N
[14.Kf2 cxd4 15.cxd4 fxe5 16.fxe5

Ndxe5 17.dxe5 Nxe5 18.Kg1 Ng4 19.Rg3 e5 20.Rxg4 Bxg4 21.Nxe5 Bxh5 22.Nf4 Rac8 23.Qe1 Qxe1 24.Rxe1 Bb4 25.Rb1 d4 26.Bc1 Bf7 27.Nxf7 Rxf7 28.g3 g5 0-1 Aronian,L (2781)-Bluebaum,M (2670) chess24.com (Internet-rapid) 2021]

14...Qd8 15.Qc2 Rf7 16.0-0-0 Threatening g4. **16...b5** 1.36/23

[16...f5!= 0.21/22]

17.g4!± c4? 3.12/23

[17...fxe5± 1.03/22 18.dxe5 Nb6]

18.Rg3 b4 19.g5! bxc3 20.Bxc3

[20.Nxc3 fxg5 21.Ne2 *(21.fxg5? Rxf3 22.Rg4 hxg5-+)* 21...gxf4 *(21...Qf8 22.Bh3±)* 22.Nxf4 Nf8=]

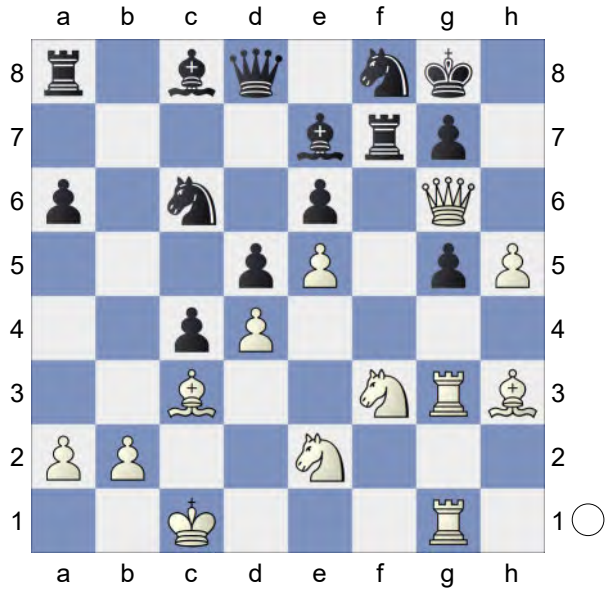
20...fxg5 21.fxg5 hxg5 22.Bh3 Nf8 23.Rdg1 White has strong compensation. **23...Nh7** 3.29/18

[23...a5± 1.32/20]

24.Qg6? 1.01/20

[24.h6!+- 3.29/18 and the rest is easy.]

24...Nf8



25.Qc2 -0.01/17 White has more active pieces. The black rooks are passive.

[25.Qb1!± 1.55/21]

25...Nh7= 26.h6 Rb8? 4.05/18

[26...a5 2.43/17 was necessary. 27.Kb1 Qe8]

27.Bg4 Qf8 28.Qg6 Bb4? 7.60/21

[28...Bd8 2.56/18 29.hxg7 *(29.Bxe6 Bxe6 30.Qxe6 Nb4±)* 29...Qxg7]

29.Bxe6

[29.hxg7 Rxg7 30.Qc2 *(30.Bxe6+ Kh8±)* 30...Bxc3 31.Qxc3 Nb4∓]

29...Bxe6 30.Qxe6 Nd8 31.Qg6 Hoping for Rxg5!.

[31.Qxa6? Bxc3 *(31...Rxf3 32.Rxf3 Qxf3 33.Bxb4∓)* 32.hxg7 Bxb2+ *(32...Rxf3 33.gxf8Q+ Rxf8 34.Qg6+ Kh8 35.Rxg5)* 33.Kd1 Qa3 *(33...Rxf3?* too greedy. *34.gxf8Q+ Kxf8 35.Rxf3++-; 33...Kxg7? 34.Nxg5 Rf1+ 35.Kc2+-; 33...Rxg7? 34.Qa5-+)* 34.Qxa3 Bxa3-+]

31...Bxc3 32.Nxc3→ White wants a kill.

[32.Nxg5 leads to mate. Rf1+ *(32...Rxb2 33.Qxh7#; 32...Bxb2+? 33.Kd1-+)* 33.Rxf1 Qxf1+ 34.Kc2 Qxe2+ 35.Kc1 Bxb2+ 36.Kb1 Qd1#]

32...Rfb7? 7.43/18

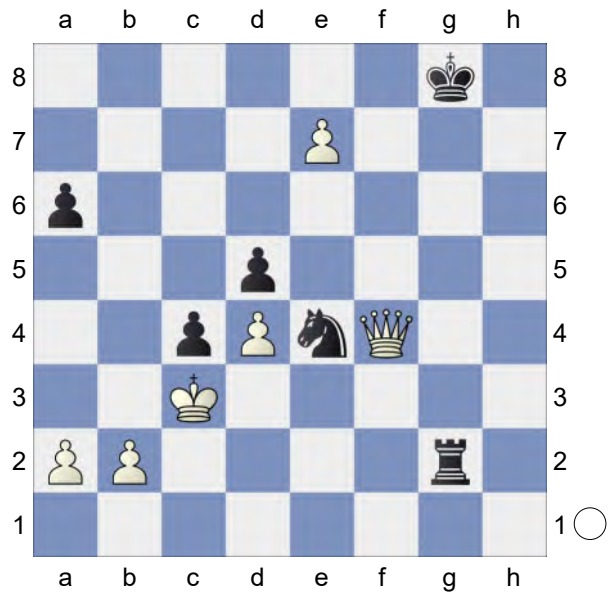
[32...Qb4 2.47/18]

33.hxg7 Rxg7 34.Qc2 Qf4+ 6.86/18

[⌓34...Ne6 4.30/19 35.Nxd5 Discovered Attack c3]

35.Kb1+- Rb5 36.Ne2 Deflection **36...Qf7 37.Nxg5 Nxg5 38.Rxg5 Ne6 39.Rxg7+ Nxg7 40.Ng3 Ne6 41.Nf5+ Kf8 42.Rh1 Qg8** Repels Rh8 **43.Qh2 Rb6 44.Rg1 Ng5 45.Qf4** Black is weak on the dark squares **45...Rg6 46.Nh6+ Nf7 47.Nxg8 Rxg1+ 48.Kc2 Rg2+ 49.Kc3** Threatening mate with e6!. **49...Kxg8 50.e6 Ng5 51.e7 Ne4+**

(Diagram)

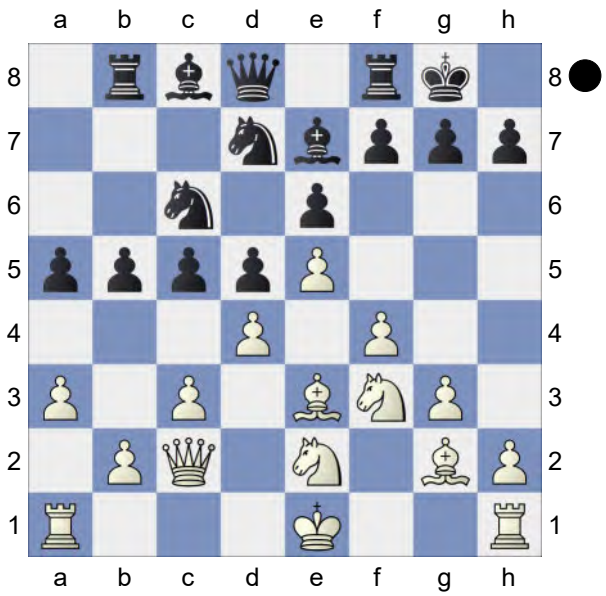


52.Qxe4!! 15.26/26 **Rg3+**
[52...dxe4 53.e8Q+]
53.Kb4 a5+ Weighted Error Value: White=0.83/Black=1.72 **54.Ka4**
1-0

209 **C11**
□ **Sasikiran,Krishnan** **2647**
■ **Gurevich,M.** **2577**
Rilton Winners Cup 2020 (1.2) 28.12.20
[Kitty Kat]

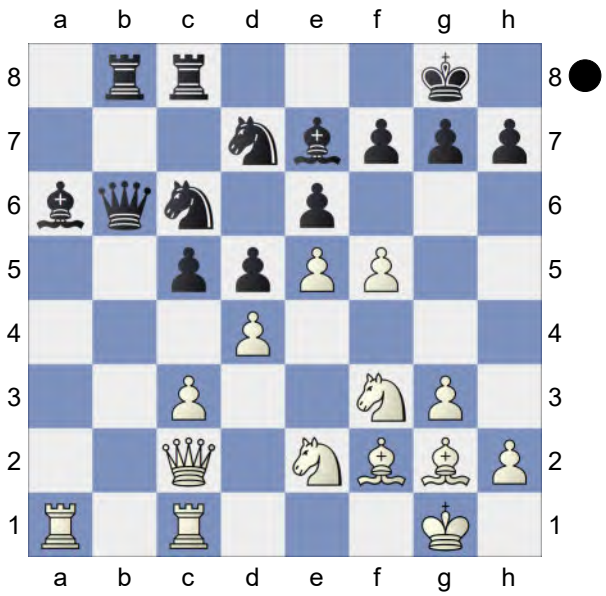
C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.Ne2 Be7 9.c3 0-0 10.g3** White is slightly better. **10...b5**
[10...cxd4 11.Nexd4 Nc5 12.Bg2 *(12.Qc2 Bd7 13.h4 Nxd4 14.Bxd4 Rc8 15.Bd3 h6 16.g4 Ba4 17.b3 Bb5 18.Bh7+ Kh8 19.Ng5 Ne4 20.Bxe4 dxe4 21.0-0-0 Bd3 22.Rxd3 exd3 23.Qxd3 g6 24.Ne4 Qd5 25.Rd1* French-6.♘f3 ♘f6 7.♗e3 a6 Survey 2020*)* 12...Bd7 13.0-0 Rc8 14.Kh1 Ne4 15.Nxc6 bxc6 16.c4 a5 17.Qc2 g6 18.Rad1 Nc5 19.Nd4 Qc7 20.g4 Rfd8 21.Qf2 Be8 22.f5 Qxe5 23.fxe6 Nxe6 24.Nxe6 Qxe6 25.Rde1 0-1 Mu,K (2696)-11...Qc7 12. Nbd2 cd4 13.c,4 (2767) NOR-ch Kristiansand 1992 (3)]
11.a3 -0.15/18
[11.Rc1 0.21/18]
11...Rb8N 0.49/19
[11...a5= -0.15/18 12.h4 b4 13.Qc2 bxc3 14.bxc3 Ba6 15.Ng5 g6 16.h5 Bxg5 17.fxg5 cxd4 18.cxd4 Rc8 19.Qd1 Ndxe5 20.dxe5 Nxe5 21.Ng1 Bxf1 22.Kxf1 Nc4 23.Bf2 Qxg5 24.Nf3 Ne3+ 25.Bxe3 Qxe3 26.Qe2 Qxe2+ 0-1 Campos (2677)-Vilner (2528) ETCC Crete 2007 27.Kxe2 Rc2+ 28.Nd2 Rc3 29.Nf3 gxh5 30.Rxh5 Rb8 31.Rg5+ Kf8 32.a4 Rb2+ 33.Nd2 Rcc2 34.Rd1 Ra2 35.Rh5 Kg7 36.Rg5+ Kf6 37.Rg8 Rcb2 38.Kd3 e5 39.Kc3 Rc2+ 40.Kd3 e4+ 41.Ke3 Ra3+ ½-½ Bacrot,E (2653)-Gelfand,B (2704) Albert m 2002 (2) 42.Kf4 e3 0-1 Bacrot,E (2677)-Werle,J (2528) Deutschland 138/123 2018]
12.Qc2± a5 13.Bg2 -0.72/19
[13.dxc5!± 0.45/19 stays ahead. Nxc5 14.b4]

(Diagram)



13...Qb6 -0.25/18
[13...b4!∓ -0.72/19]
14.0-0= b4 15.axb4! axb4 0.18/16
[15...cxb4 -0.20/19 16.Rf2 Ba6]
16.Bf2 -0.44/17
[White should try 16.Rfe1= 0.18/16]
16...Ba6∓ 17.Rfc1 Rfc8 0.01/18
[17...bxc3∓ -0.48/18 should be considered. 18.bxc3 Bxe2 19.Qxe2 Na5]
18.f5= bxc3
[18...cxd4 19.Nexd4 Nxd4 20.Bxd4 Bc5]
19.bxc3

(Diagram)

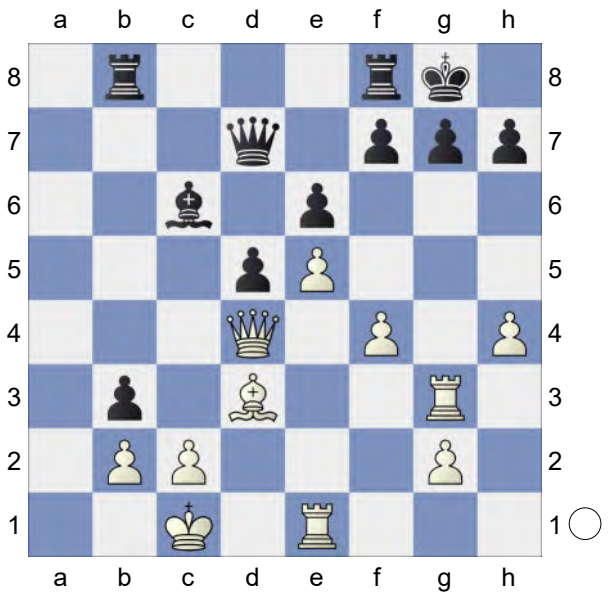


cxd4 20.Nexd4
[20.fxe6 is interesting. fxe6 21.Nfxd4 Nxd4 22.Nxd4 Nxe5 23.Nf5]
20...Nxd4
[20...Ndxe5 21.fxe6 Nxd4 22.exf7+ Nxf7 23.Nxd4±]
21.Nxd4 Bc5? 2.61/25
[21...Nxe5= 0.05/20 and Black stays safe. 22.fxe6 Bc4 *(22...fxe6 23.Nf5=)*]
22.fxe6 1.34/21
[22.Rcb1+- 2.61/25 Qa7 23.Rxb8 *(23.fxe6 Rxb1+ 24.Qxb1 fxe6+-)* 23...Nxb8 24.Qd2 *(24.fxe6 Bxd4 25.exf7+ Kf8±)*]
22...fxe6± 23.Bh3? 0.14/22
[23.Rcb1+- 1.69/24 Bxd4 24.Rxb6 Bxf2+ 25.Qxf2 Rxb6 26.Qd4]
23...Bxd4= 24.Bxd4 Qc6 25.Qa4 Bb5 26.Qa3 Nf8! Black is weak on the dark squares **27.Qd6 Ra8** 0.53/25
[27...Qe8!= -0.01/23]
28.Rxa8 Rxa8 29.Rb1
[29.Qxc6 simplifies Bxc6 30.Bg4 Be8 31.Rb1]
29...Qe8! 30.Bc5! Black must now prevent Qxf8+. **30...Bd7** 0.59/21
[30...Qf7!= 0.04/22]

31.Rb7 0.01/22
[31.Bf1± 0.59/21]
31...Qf7 0.62/22
[31...Bc6= 0.01/22 32.Rc7 Ra1+ 33.Kf2 Bb5 34.Qxf8+ Remove Defender, Deflection Qxf8+ 35.Bxf8 Kxf8 36.Bxe6 Bc4 37.Rf7+ Ke8 38.Rxg7 Rf1+ 39.Kg2 Re1]
32.Rb1 -0.01/24 White is much more active.
[32.Bf1± 0.62/22]
32...Qh5 0.65/22
[Black should play 32...Qe8= -0.01/24]
33.Rf1 0.19/22
[33.Bf1± 0.65/22]
33...Qe8 34.Rxf8+ 0.01/5
[34.Rf2± 0.51/20]
34...Qxf8 35.Qxf8+ Rxf8 The position is equal. **36.Bxf8 Kxf8±** Endgame KB-KB **37.Kf2 Ke7 38.Bf1 h6 39.Ke3 Ba4 40.Kd4 Bc2 41.h4 Bd1 42.Bd3 Bg4 43.Bg6 Be2 44.Kc5 Bd1 45.Bd3 Bg4 46.Kd4 Bd1 47.Ke3 g5 48.hxg5 hxg5 49.Kd4 Bf3 50.Bb5 Bg4 51.Bd3 Bf3 52.Bc2 Bg4 53.Ke3 Kd7 54.Bd3 Ke7 55.Kd4** Weighted Error Value: White=0.25 (precise) /Black=0.22 (precise) **55...Bf3**
½-½

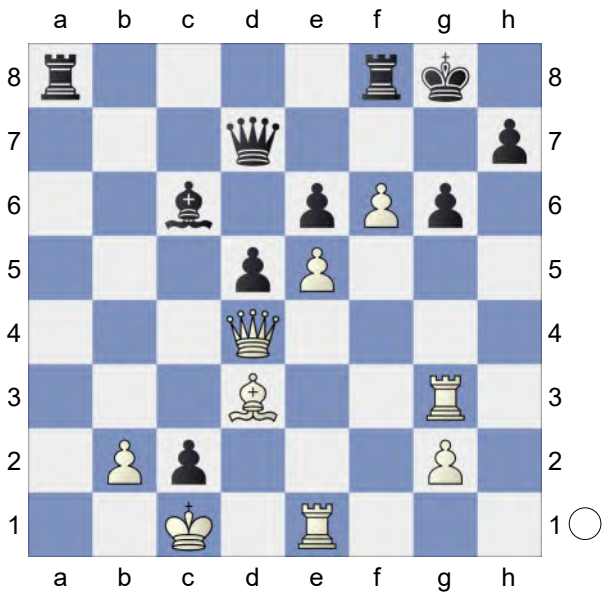
210 **C11**
□ **Van der Hoeven,David A** **2647**
■ **Andersen,Jens Knud** **2482**
corr 30 YEARS APA Magazine A 15.5.01
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Bc5 9.Qd2 0-0 10.0-0-0 a6 11.h4 Nxd4 12.Bxd4 b5 13.Rh3 b4 14.Na4 Bxd4 15.Qxd4 a5 16.Bb5 Rb8 17.Bd3 Bb7 18.Re1N** -0.58/21
[White should try 18.f5= 0.01/19 Qc7 *(18...Bc6 19.Nc5 Nxc5 20.Qxc5 Qb6 21.Qxb6 Rxb6 22.Rf3 Rc8 23.fxe6 fxe6 24.Rf4 Bb5 25.Kd2 Bxd3 26.cxd3 Rbc6 27.Ke3 Rf8 28.Rxf8+ Kxf8 29.Rf1+ Ke7 30.Kd2 h5 31.b3 Rc8 32.g3 g5 33.Rf6* ½-½ Mikulcic (2524)-Bungo,G (2491) EUchJ Vejen 1993 (9)*)* 19.Re1 exf5 *(19...Rbc8 20.h5 Qc6 21.Rg3 Kh8 22.Qg4 Rg8 23.b3 Ba6 24.c3 Bxd3 25.Rxd3 f6 26.exf6 e5 27.f7 Rgf8 28.Kb1 e4 29.h6 Rxf7 30.Qh5 Ne5 31.Rde3 gxh6 32.Rf1 d4 33.cxd4 Qc2+ 34.Ka1* 0-1 16.Nb3 Re8 17.Bh6 (2488)-Petrov,A (2555) 63/(421) Pardubice 1994*)* 20.Bxf5 Bc6 21.Nc5 Nxc5 22.Qxc5 Rfe8 23.Rhe3 Qb6 24.Qxb6 Rxb6 25.e6 g6 26.exf7+ Kxf7 27.Be6+ Kg7 28.Bg4 Rbb8 29.Kd2 Re4 30.Bf3 French-9.Qd2 0-0 10.000 Survey 2020 Rxe3 31.Rxe3 Kf6 32.Bg4 Re8 33.Rf3+ Ke7 34.Rf4 Kd6 35.Bf3 Re7 36.Rf6+ Re6 37.Rf7 Re7 38.Rxe7 Kxe7 39.Ke3 Ba4 40.c3 bxc3 41.bxc3 Kd6 42.Kd4 Bc6 43.g3 h6 44.Bg2 g5 45.hxg5 1-0 Fedorov,A (2659)-Kortschnoj,V (2676) 77/273 Batumi 1999]
18...Bc6∓ 19.Nc5 a4 0.01/21
[Better is 19...Bb5∓ -0.50/21 20.Nxd7 Qxd7]
20.Nxd7!= Qxd7 0.62/22
[20...Bxd7= -0.12/21 21.h5 h6]
21.Rg3 -0.34/19 White has more active pieces.
[21.f5!± 0.62/22]
21...b3 1.03/22
[21...Bb5∓ -0.34/19 stays ahead.]
22.axb3± axb3



23.f5!↑ White is more active. This move loses the game for Black. **23...bxc2?** 7.69/24
[23...exf5? 24.Rxg7+ Kxg7 25.e6+ f6 26.exd7+-]
[23...Bb5± 0.59/19]
24.f6+- White is clearly winning. **24...g6**
25.h5! Strongly threatening hxg6!.
25...Ra8 ...Ra1+ is the strong threat.
26.hxg6
[Less strong is 26.Kxc2 Bb5=]
[26.Bxc2 Qa7 27.Qf4 Qa1+ 28.Kd2 Qa5+ *(28...Qxb2? perishes. 29.Qh6+-)* 29.b4 Qb6 30.hxg6 fxg6+-]
26...fxg6

(Diagram)



27.Bxg6! Kh8 Black is weak on the dark squares **28.Rh3 Ra1+ 29.Kxc2 Rxe1 30.Qb4 Ba4+ 31.Kd2 Rd1+ 32.Ke2 Qb5+ 33.Qxb5** Deflection **33...Bxb5+** Weighted Error Value: White=0.10 (very precise) /Black=2.32 **34.Kxd1**
1-0

211 **C11**
□ **indomie_egg** **2647**
■ **EzWin78** **2788**
Blitz 29.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.Nf3 b5** 0.52/18
[7...Qb6= -0.03/19]
8.a3 0.13/18
[8.Nf4± 0.52/18 is more appropriate.]
8...a5 0.55/17
[8...cxd4= 0.13/18 9.Nexd4 *(9.cxd4 b4=)* 9...Ndxe5]
9.Nf4 Qb6
[9...Ba6 10.h4 h6 11.Bd3 Qb6 12.Be3 Be7 13.0-0 cxd4 14.Nxd4

Nxd4 15.Bxd4 Bc5 16.b4 Bxd4 17.cxd4 axb4 18.axb4 g5 19.Nh5 Qxd4 20.Nf6+ Ke7 21.Nxd7 Qxb4 22.Nb6 Ra7 23.Qf3 1-0 Carlsen,M (2855)-Fressinet,L (2687) Paris GCT blitz 2016 (8)]

10.Be2 White is slightly better.

10...Be7N

[10...Ba6 11.0-0 cxd4 12.cxd4 a4 13.Be3 Na5 14.Ng5 Be7 15.h4 Nb3 16.Rb1 b4 17.Bxa6 Qxa6 18.axb4 g6 19.Qg4 Nf8 20.Qf3 h6 21.Nxd5 exd5 22.Qxf7+ Kd7 23.Qxd5+ Ke8 24.b5 Qc8 25.Qf7+ 0-1 Kamsky,G (2609)-Stevik,P (2254) Titled Tuesday intern op 24th Sep Late blitz 2024 (7)]

11.0-0 0-0 12.Re1 0.06/20

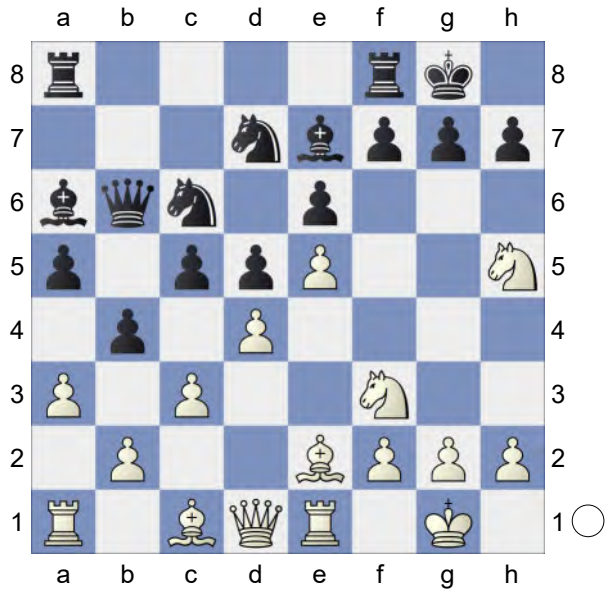
[12.Be3± 0.51/19]

12...Ba6= 13.Nh5 0.01/19

[13.Bd3± 0.41/19]

13...b4 0.49/19

[13...Rfc8= 0.01/19]



14.c4? -2.20/18 **dxc4-+**

[14...Nxd4 15.Nxd4 cxd4 16.cxd5=]

15.d5 exd5

[15...Ncxe5 16.Nxe5 Nxe5 17.Bf1 bxa3 18.Rxa3]

16.Qxd5 -2.42/19

[16.axb4∓ -1.59/16 cxb4 *(16...Nxb4 17.Bd2∓)* 17.Be3]

16...Rad8 17.Qe4 -2.63/20

[17.Nf4 -1.74/19]

17...Nd4 18.axb4 -3.19/18

[⌓18.Bd1 -2.17/19]

18...axb4 -1.53/17

[18...Nxe2+-+ -3.19/18 19.Rxe2 cxb4 *(19...Qxb4 20.Bd2=)*]

19.Qg4 -2.10/19

[19.Bf1∓ -1.53/17]

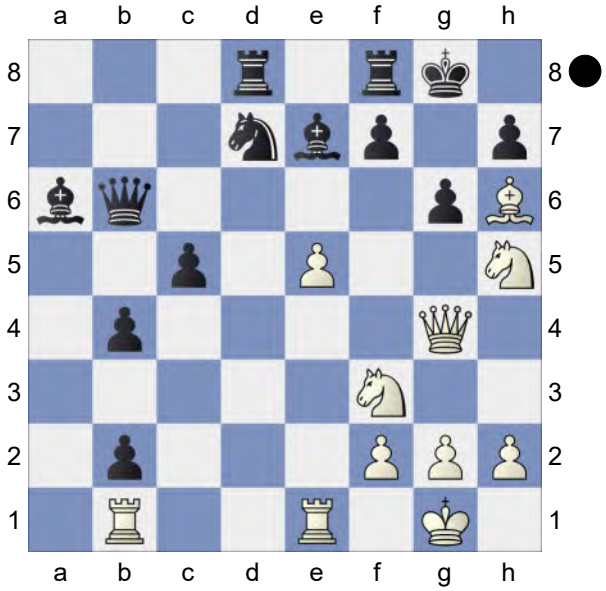
19...g6 -0.75/18

[19...Nxe2+-+ -2.10/19 20.Rxe2 Qg6 21.Qxg6 hxg6 22.Rxa6 gxh5]

20.Bh6? -4.89/19

[20.Nf4∓ -0.75/18 Nxe2+ 21.Nxe2]

20...Nxe2+ 21.Rxe2 Black must now prevent Re3!. **21...c3! 22.Ree1 cxb2 23.Rab1**



Bd3! 24.Rxb2 Bf5 -2.08/17 This pair of bishops is nice.

[⌓24...c4 -4.47/16 25.e6 fxe6 26.Bxf8 Bxf8 *(26...Nxf8? 27.Ne5-+)*]

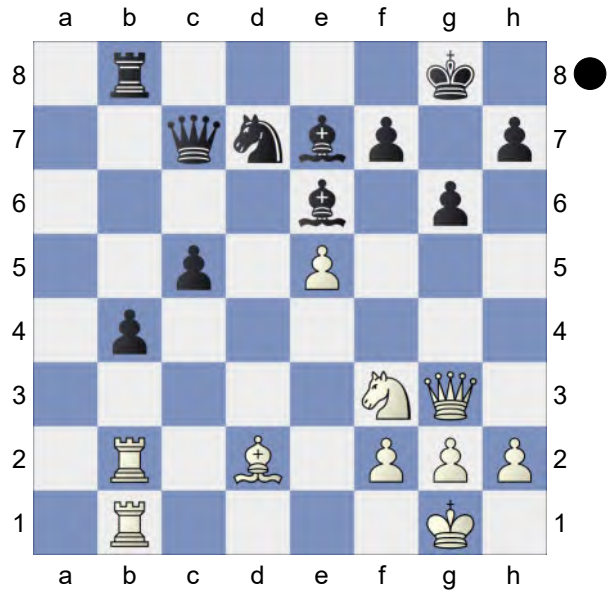
25.Qg3? -3.78/16

[25.Qf4 -2.08/17]

25...Rfe8? -0.42/17

[25...c4-+ -3.78/16 26.e6 fxe6

(26...Bxe6 27.Nf4-+)]
26.Ng7∓ Be6 27.Nxe8? -2.21/17
[27.Ng5∓ -0.55/17]
27...Rxe8-+ 28.Be3 -2.27/15
[⌓28.Bg5 -1.74/16]
28...Qc7 Black has strong compensation. **29.Bd2** -2.49/16
[29.Ng5∓ -1.43/18]
29...Rb8 -1.13/17
[29...Qa5-+ -2.49/16 30.Ng5 Qb6]
30.Reb1? -2.83/16
[30.Ng5∓ -1.13/17]



30...Nb6 -1.39/16
[30...b3!-+ -2.83/16 is more deadly. and ...c4 would now be decisive 31.Bc3 Nb6 32.Rxb3 Bxb3 33.Rxb3 c4]
31.Rc1? -3.94/18
[31.Ng5∓ -1.39/16]
31...Na4?? 2.46/18
[31...Nc4-+ -3.94/18 and life is good for Black. 32.Rbb1 b3]
32.Rbb1 -4.07/16
[32.Rxb4!+- 2.46/18 is the narrow road to win. Rxb4 33.Bxb4 Pin]
32...b3
[32...c4 33.Nd4 Qd7 34.Qf4±]
33.Nd4? -5.39/19
[33.Qf4 -3.31/16 was called for. Qd7 *(33...c4 34.h3∓)* 34.Rd1]
33...Qb6? 0.01/23
[Black should play 33...b2-+ -5.39/19 34.Nxe6 bxc1Q+ *(34...bxc1R+? 35.Rxc1 fxe6 36.h3-+)* 35.Rxc1 fxe6]
34.Nxe6 -0.50/21
[White should play 34.Nxb3!= 0.01/23 Bxb3 35.Bg5 Bxg5 36.Qxg5]
34...Qxe6∓ 35.h4? -3.86/20
[35.Qh3∓ -0.44/22 Qd5 *(35...Qxe5? perishes. 36.Rxb3 Rd8 37.Ba5+-; 35...Qxh3 36.gxh3 Rb5 37.h4∓)* 36.Rd1]
35...c4 -1.82/19
[⌓35...b2 -3.86/20 36.Re1 c4]
36.Bc3? -5.34/21 White is weak on the light squares
[36.h5 -1.82/19 is more resistant.]
36...Rd8 -2.28/19
[⌓36...b2 -5.34/21 37.Bxb2 Rxb2 *(37...Nxb2? 38.Qf4-+)*]
37.Kh2? -11.29/18
[37.Ba1 -2.28/19]
Weighted Error Value: White=1.54/ Black=1.11 **37...Rd3**
0-1

212 **C11**
□ **Tari,Aryan** **2642**
■ **Santiago,Yago de Moura** **2455**
Julius Baer GenCup Pl/In rapid (7)
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 Be7 8.Nf3 Qb6 9.g3**
[9.a3 f6 10.h4 0-0 11.b4 cxd4 12.cxd4 a5 13.b5 Nd8 14.Nc3 a4

15.Bd3 f5 16.Qc2 h5 17.Nxa4 Qa7 18.Nc3 Nb6 19.a4 Bb4 20.Qb3 Qa5 21.Bd2 Bd7 22.Ke2 Nc4 23.Bxc4 dxc4 1-0 Chitrit,N (2651)-6.h3 b6 7.♘c3 e5_54469 (2572) 16/94 Manila 1973]

9...0-0 10.Bh3 f6N

[10...cxd4 11.cxd4 f6 12.Bxe6+ Kh8 13.exf6 Nxf6 14.Bxc8 Bb4+ 15.Bd2 Bxd2+ 16.Qxd2 Ne4 17.Qc2 Raxc8 18.Nc3 Nxd4 19.Nxd4 Qxd4 20.Rf1 Rfe8 0-1 10.e5 ♘h5 11.a4_6754 (1800)-Kretschmer,M (1877) (m/21) Paris 1843]

11.Qb3!? 0.23/22 Leaves trodden paths. Verlässt die ausgetretenen Pfade.

[11.Bxe6+± 0.62/16 is more appropriate. Kh8 12.Bxd5]

11...fxe5N

[Vorgänger: 11...cxd4 White must now prevent ...Ndxe5! 12.Bxe6+ Kh8 13.Qxb6 axb6 14.Nexd4 0.13/24 *(*Better is *14.exf6±* 0.72/23 *Nxf6 15.Nexd4)* 14...Nxd4= 15.cxd4 Nxe5 16.Bxd5 Nd3+ 17.Ke2 Nb4! 18.Bb3 1-0 Janik,I (2447)-Karaoglan,D (2196) Wch U20 57th 2018 (1)]

[11...Qa6 seems wilder. 12.Bxe6+ Kh8 13.Bxd5 cxd4 14.Nexd4 fxe5 15.Qb5 Qxb5 16.Nxb5 Nf6]

12.dxe5 Na5 1.02/20

[12...Ndb8± 0.45/22]

13.Qxb6 0.46/19

[13.Qc2± 1.02/20]

13...Nxb6± 14.b3 Bd7 15.Be3 Nc6 16.0-0 Rad8 17.Rad1 Bc8 18.Ng5 0.35/22

[White should try 18.Bg4± 0.72/19]

18...Bxg5 19.fxg5 Rxf1+ 20.Kxf1 Nxe5 0.72/23

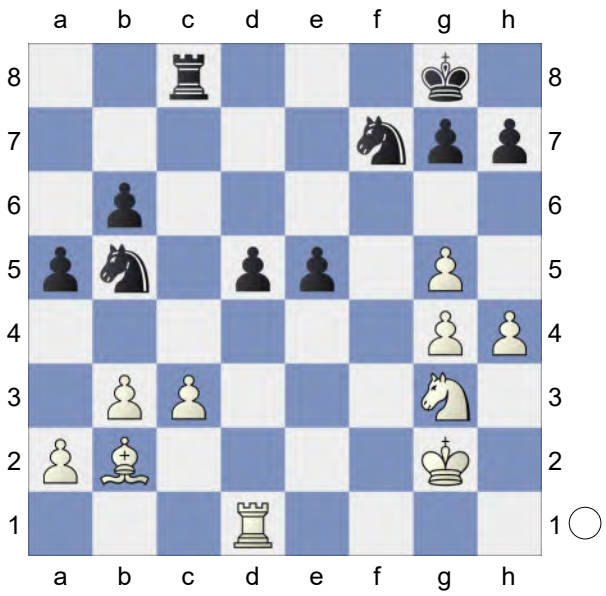
[20...d4± 0.34/24 21.cxd4 Nd5]

21.Bxc5± Black is weak on the dark squares **21...Nf7! 22.Kg2** 0.22/22 White is more active.

[22.Bg2± 0.77/20]

22...e5= Dodges Nf4 **23.Bxc8 Nxc8 24.h4 b6 25.Ba3 a5 26.g4 Na7 27.Ng3 Nb5 28.Bb2 Rc8** 0.83/25

[28...g6= 0.21/24]

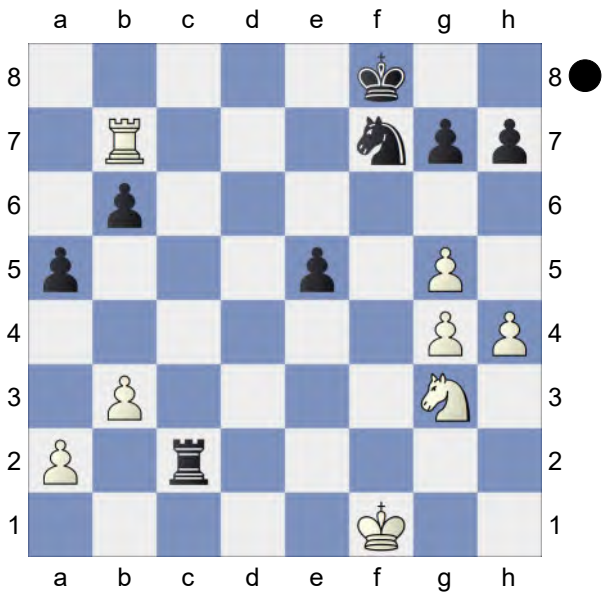


29.Rxd5 0.41/22

[29.Nf5!± 0.83/25 Ne7+ is the strong threat. Rc7 30.Rxd5 Nxc3 31.Bxc3 Rxc3 32.Rd7]

29...Nxc3± 30.Bxc3 Rxc3± Endgame. KRN-KRN **31.Rd7 Rc2+ 32.Kf3 Rc3+ 33.Kf2 Rc2+ 34.Kf1 Kf8 35.Rb7**

(Diagram)



Hoping for Rb8+. **35...Nd6** 0.55/23
[35...g6= 0.02/26]
36.Rxb6± Ke7 37.a4 g6 Prevents Nf5+ **38.Ke1** 0.01/26
[38.Ne2± 0.45/21]
38...Rg2= 39.Nf1 And now Ne3 would win. **39...Rxg4 40.Ne3 Rxh4 41.Nd5+ Kd7 42.Ra6 h5 43.gxh6! Rxh6 44.Nf6+ Kc7!**
[44...Ke6? 45.Ne4+-]
45.Rxa5 Rh1+ 46.Kd2 Rh3 47.Kc2
[47.Rxe5 Rxb3 48.Kc2 Rb7]
47...e4 48.Re5 Rh2+ 49.Kc3 Rh3+ 50.Kb4 e3 0.93/22
[50...Kc6= 0.12/23]
51.Nd5+± Kc6? 2.94/22
[51...Kd7± 1.27/19 might work better.]
52.Nxe3+- Rh4+ 53.Kc3 0.12/23
[53.Nc4± 1.37/27]
53...Rh3 1.41/22
[53...Ne4+!= 0.12/23 keeps the balance. 54.Kb2 Nc5]
54.Kb4 2.15/21
[54.Kb2± 1.41/22]
54...g5? 4.56/21
[54...Rh4+ 2.15/21 55.Kc3 Ne4+ 56.Kb2 Nc5]
55.Nc4 Rh4 6.38/18
[⌓55...Nf7 4.45/17]
56.Rxg5 Strongly threatening Rg6.
56...Nxc4 8.06/28
[⌓56...Ne4 4.11/16]
57.Rc5+
[57.bxc4 Rh1 58.Rg6+ Kb7±]
57...Kb6 58.Rxc4 Weighted Error Value: White=0.18 (very precise) / Black=0.31
[Weaker is 58.bxc4 Rh1 59.Rb5+ Kc6±]
1-0

213 **C11**
□ **Weiawaga** **2640**
■ **magnusglad_bot** **2792**
Classical 19.02.2025
[Kitty Kat]

Rapid 30min+1sec C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 Current Reputation: Playable for both sides **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Qb6 8.Na4 Qa5+ 9.c3 b6 10.Bd2 c4 11.b4 Nxb4 12.cxb4 Bxb4 13.Qc2 Bxd2+** White is slightly better. **14.Nxd2 b5 15.Nc3 0-0 16.Nf3** 0.20/18
[16.a3± 0.71/22]
[16.Be2 b4 17.Nd1 Qb6 *(17...Nb8 18.0-0 Nc6 19.Nf3 Qb6 20.Qd2 a5 21.Nf2 Bd7 22.Rfd1 Rfc8 23.Ng4 Ne7 24.Ne3 a4 25.Rdc1 Rab8 26.Rab1 Qa5 27.Bd1 Nc6 28.Qf2 b3 29.axb3 axb3 30.Ng4 Qd8 31.Qg3 Kh8 32.Ng5* 0-1 Badenhorst,C (1970)-Liu,Y (2261) Sant Boi de Llobregat op 5th 2024 (4)) 18.Nf3 Nb8 *(18...f6 19.exf6 Nxf6 20.0-0 a5 21.Qd2 Ne4 22.Qe3 Nd6 23.Rb1 Nf5 24.Qf2 Bd7* It's a Family Affair,S-

The French Defense,B 336 Linz 2013) 19.Nf2 Nc6 20.Rd1 f6 21.0-0 Bd7 22.exf6 Rxf6 23.Ng4 Rxf4 24.Ng5 Rf5 25.Rxf5 exf5 26.Bf3 Qb5 27.Ne3 Ne7 28.Re1 h6 29.Nh3 b3 30.Qb1 Bc6 1-0 Azumilover (2946)-Odessacoach (2673) Blitz 2022]

16...b4= 17.Nd1 Qb6 18.h4N 0.14/18

[18.Qf2!± 0.54/17 was preferable.]

[18.a3 b3 19.Qd2 f6 20.h4 Nb8 21.h5 a5 22.h6 Ra7 23.Nc3 Nc6 24.Rd1 Raf7 25.exf6 gxf6 26.g3 Kh8 27.Bh3 Qd8 28.Kf2 Qd6 29.Rhe1 f5 30.Qb2 Rf6 31.Rh1 Rxh6 32.Ng5 Kg7 1-0 Deslandes,P (2796)-Gishi,T (2629) USSR Team Championship 1988 (9) 33.Na4 Qe7 34.Nf3 Na7 35.Nc3 Bd7 36.Rde1 Qd6 37.Re3 Qb6 38.Qd2 Qd6 39.Qb2 Qb6 40.Kg2 Nc8 41.Ne5 Be8 42.Qd2 Nd6 43.Ree1 a4 44.g4 fxg4 45.Bxg4 Rxh1 46.Rxh1 Nf5 47.Bxf5 Rxf5 1-0 Caruana,F (2819)-Vachier Lagrave,M (2779) Norway Chess 7th_12839 2019 (2)]

18...f6 19.Qf2 -0.01/18

[19.Be2± 0.58/18]

19...fxe5 20.fxe5 Nb8 21.h5 h6 Black has compensation. **22.Be2** Black must now prevent g4. **22...Nc6**

23.Rh4 -1.10/17 Prevents Rf4.

[23.Qe3= 0.01/18 keeps the balance.]

23...Bd7∓ 24.Kf1 a5 25.Kg1! a4! Black is more active. **26.Qe3** -1.39/16

[⌓26.a3 -0.80/17]

26...Ne7 -0.79/16

[⌓26...a3 -1.39/16]

27.Rh3 a3 -0.65/16

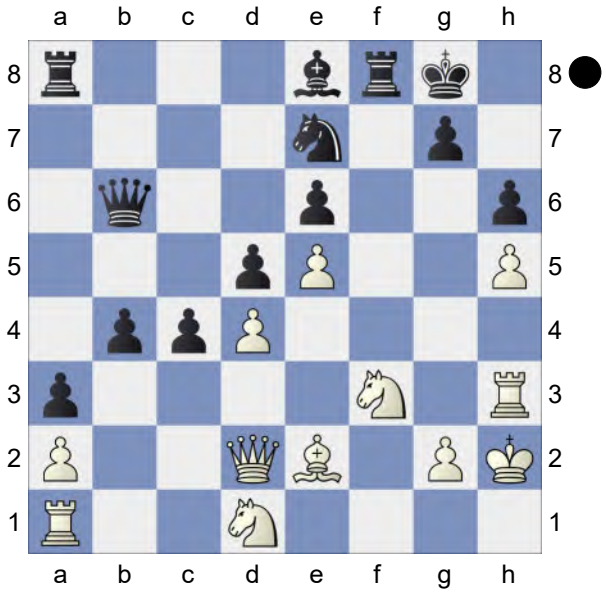
[27...Nf5∓ -1.36/17 28.Qf4 c3]

28.Kh2!∓ Be8

[28...Nf5 29.Qg1∓]

29.Qd2 -1.82/16

[29.Rb1∓ -0.87/16]

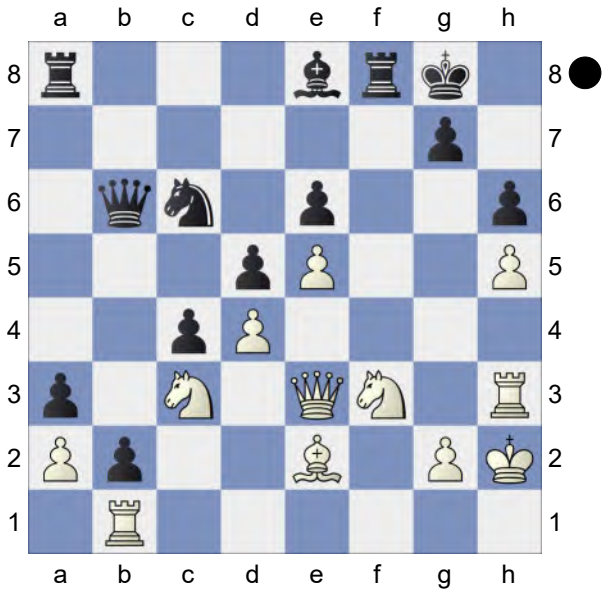


29...Nc6!-+ 30.Rb1 -2.17/17

[30.Qe3∓ -1.34/16]

30...b3 31.Nc3 b2 32.Qe3 -2.09/17

[32.g4∓ -1.00/17]



32...Nb4! 33.Ne1 -2.23/19

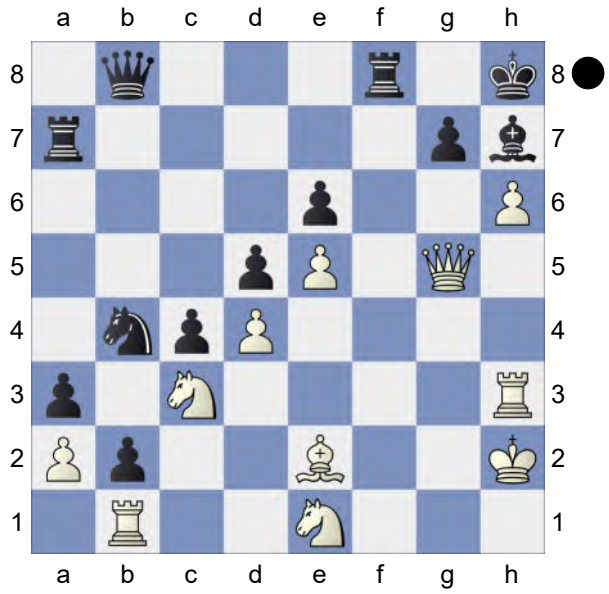
[33.Bd1∓ -1.51/17]

33...Kh8 Now White is beyond hope.

34.Rg3? -3.47/18

[34.Bd1∓ -1.49/18 keeps fighting.]

34...Bf7 35.Rf3? -5.07/19
[35.Nf3 -2.90/18]
35...Qb8 36.g4 -5.73/18
[⌓36.Rh3 -3.89/18 Bg8 37.Nf3]
36...Bg8 37.g5 hxg5 38.Qxg5? -6.97/18
[38.h6 -3.71/19 gxh6 39.Rh3]
38...Bh7 39.h6 Ra7 40.Rh3



Nxa2! 41.Nxa2
[41.Nd1 Nb4]
41...Rf2+
[41...Bxb1 42.hxg7+ Kg8 43.gxf8Q+ *(43.gxf8R+ Kxf8 44.Rh8+* Skewer *Kf7 45.Qf6#; 43.Rh8+ Kf7 44.Bh5+ Bg6 45.Bxg6+ Kxg7 46.Qh6#)* 43...Kxf8 44.Rh8+ Kf7 45.Qf6#]
42.Ng2 Rxe2
[42...Bxb1 43.hxg7+ Kg8 44.Rh8+ Kf7 45.Bh5+ *(45.g8B+ Ke8 46.Bxe6+* Discovered Attack (Check) *Rf8 47.Bh5+ Bg6 48.Bxg6+ Raf7 49.Bgxf7#)*]
43.Nc3 Rf2 44.Rg1 g6
[Not 44...b1R 45.Rxb1 *(45.Nxb1 a2-+)* 45...Qf8 *(45...Bxb1 46.hxg7+ Kg8 47.Rh8+* Skewer *Kf7 48.g8Q+ Qxg8 49.Qxg8+ Ke7 50.Qe8#; 45...Rxg2+? 46.Kxg2 Qe8 47.Rg3+-)* 46.Rg1∓]
45.Rb1 Qf8 ...a2 is the strong threat.
46.Nd1 a2 47.Rxb2 Rxb2
[47...a1B? loses. 48.Rxf2 Qe7 49.Qxe7 Rxe7 50.Nc3+- *(50.Rf8+ Bg8+-)*]
48.Nxb2 a1Q 49.Na4 Qxa4 50.Rh4 c3 51.Rf4 Rf7 (→ ...c2) **52.Rxf7 Qxf7 53.Qd8+ Bg8 54.h7 Kxh7 55.Qh4+ Kg7 56.Ne1 c2 57.Qg5 Qf2+ 58.Ng2 Qaxd4 59.Qf6+ Qxf6 60.exf6+ Kxf6** Black mates. **61.Kh3 c1Q 62.Ne1 Qxe1 63.Kg2 Qe2+ 64.Kh3** Weighted Error Value: White=1.45/ Black=0.29 (precise) **64...Qdg4#**
0-1

214 **C11**
□ **Svidler,Peter** **2640**
■ **Bareev,Evgeny** **2665**
(ch) 69/279 Russia 1997
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Qb6 8.Na4 Qa5+ 9.c3 c4 10.b4 Qc7 11.g3** 0.49/21
[11.Be2± 0.95/19]
11...Be7 12.Bh3
[12.Bg2 f5 13.0-0 0-0 14.Nb2 b5 15.a4 bxa4 16.Nxa4 Rb8 17.Ng5 Bxg5 18.fxg5 a5 19.bxa5 Nxa5 20.g4 Nb3 21.gxf5 Nxa1 22.Qxa1 Rxf5 23.Rxf5 exf5 24.Bxd5+ Kh8 25.Qf1 Qa5 26.Bc6 Bb7 0-1 Chapter, W (2734)-5.d5 ♙a6 6.♕c2 exd5 7.cxd (2617) Trud - Burevestnik 39/304 1984 (2.5)]
12...b5 13.Nc5 a5 White is slightly better. **14.a3 axb4N** 0.75/22
[14...Nxc5= 0.24/19 15.dxc5 Bd7

(15...0-0 16.0-0 f5 17.exf6 Bxf6 18.Bd4 e5 19.Bxc8 exd4 20.Be6+ Kh8 21.Nxd4 Bxd4+ 0-1 Buzzoni,L-Arielli,A ITA-chT5 corr 1988 *)*]

15.axb4± Rxa1 16.Qxa1 Nxc5 17.dxc5 0-0 1.58/21

[17...f5!± 0.67/21]

18.Nd4 1.11/24

[18.0-0! 1.58/21]

18...Nxd4 19.Bxd4 Bb7 1.69/23

[19...Bd7± 1.02/22]

20.0-0+- Ra8 21.Qb1 1.20/20

[21.Qd1+- 1.81/22]

21...Bc8 1.61/20

[21...g6± 1.20/20 was called for.]

22.Bg2 Ra6 23.g4 1.03/21

[23.f5 exf5 24.Bxd5 Be6=]

[23.h4+- 1.78/17]

23...Qd8 1.61/19

[23...Bd7± 1.03/21]

24.Qc2 0.74/20

[24.f5+- 1.61/19 and White stays clearly on top.]

24...Bd7± 25.f5 Bg5 1.13/20

[Black should play 25...Bh4± 0.57/21]

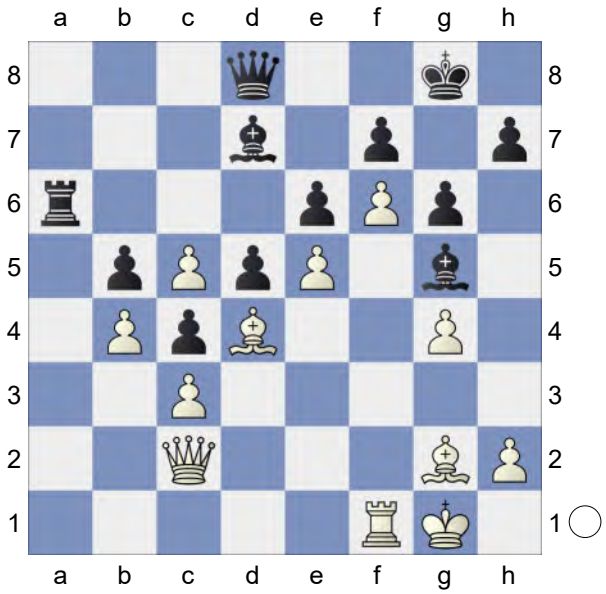
26.f6 0.01/23

[26.Qf2± 1.13/20]

26...g6=

[26...Qa8 seems wilder. 27.fxg7 Ra2 28.Qd1 Be8]

(Diagram)



27.h4! Deflection **27...Bxh4 28.Qd2** Against Bg5 **28...g5** 1.59/24

[28...Qf8!± 0.43/23]

29.Bf2± Bxf2+ 30.Rxf2

[30.Kxf2 h6 31.Bf3 Qa8∓]

30...Ra1+ 31.Bf1! Kh8! 32.Rh2 0.01/29

[Better is 32.Qxg5± 0.88/26 Qg8 33.Qxg8+ Kxg8 34.Rc2]

32...Qg8 1.03/29

[32...Bc6= 0.01/29 remains equal.]

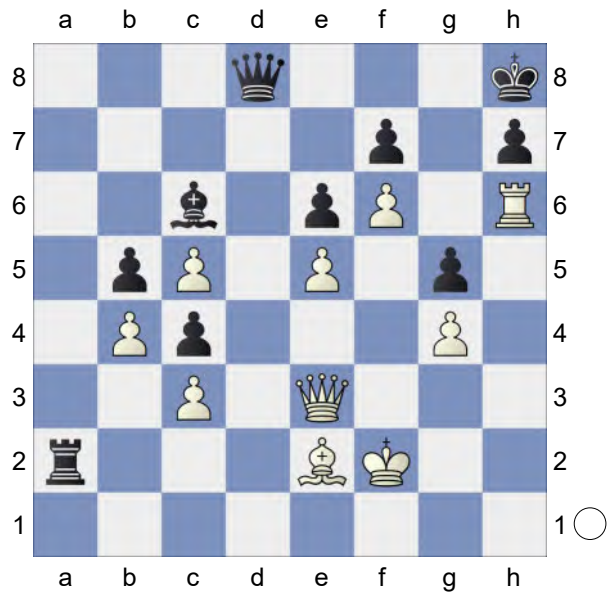
33.Rh6! White is more active. **33...d4** 1.06/22 **34.Qxd4 Bc6 35.Kf2** and Qd2 would now be decisive **35...Qa8** White must now prevent ...Bd5. **36.Be2 Ra2?** 2.93/28

[36...Bh1!= 0.01/25 and Black is okay. 37.Rh2 *(37.Ke3 Bd5∓)* 37...Kg8]

37.Qe3!→ Black is in trouble. This move loses the game for Black. **37...Qd8?** 5.02/28

[37...Rc2± 1.37/23 is a better chance.]

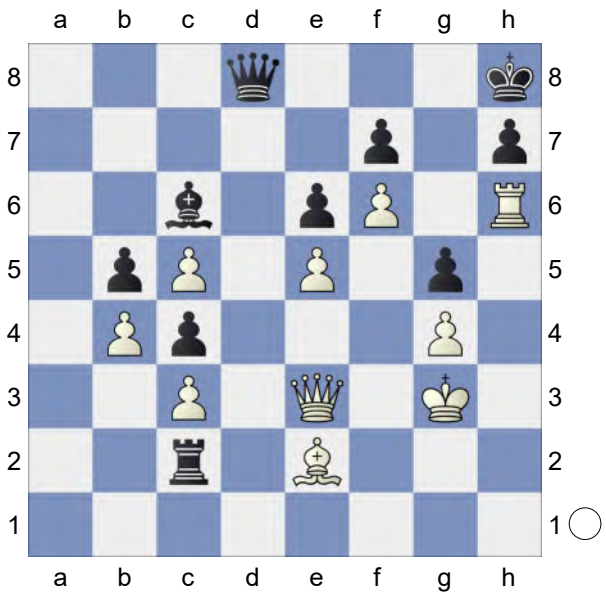
(Diagram)



38.Kg3!
[38.Qxg5 Rxe2+ 39.Kxe2 Qd3+ 40.Kf2 Qf3+ 41.Ke1 Qxc3+ 42.Kf2 Qc2+ *(42...Qf3+ 43.Ke1∓)* 43.Ke1 Qe4+ 44.Kd1 Qf3+ 45.Ke1 Qg3+ 46.Ke2 Bf3+ 47.Kd2 Qf2+ 48.Kc3 Qe1+ 49.Qd2 Qxe5+ *(49...Qxd2+? 50.Kxd2 Bd5 51.Kc3+-)* 50.Qd4 Qe1+ *(50...Qxd4+? 51.Kxd4 Kg8 52.Ke5+-)* 51.Qd2 Qe5+ *(51...Qxd2+? 52.Kxd2 Bc6 53.Ke3+-)* 52.Qd4 Qe1+ 53.Qd2 Qa1+ 54.Qb2 Qa8∓ *(54...Qxb2+? 55.Kxb2 Kg8 56.Kc3+-)*]

38...Rc2

(Diagram)



39.Rh2! Qg8? 12.54/24
[39...Qd2 2.81/22 40.Qxd2 Rxd2]

40.Bf3 Rxh2 41.Kxh2 Bxf3 42.Qxf3 Endgame KQ-KQ **42...Qd8 43.c6 h6 44.Kg3** 27.65/31
[⌓44.Kg2 #20/32 Qc7 45.Qe4 Kg8 46.Kf1 Kh8 47.Kf2 Qa7+ 48.Qe3 Qa8 49.c7]

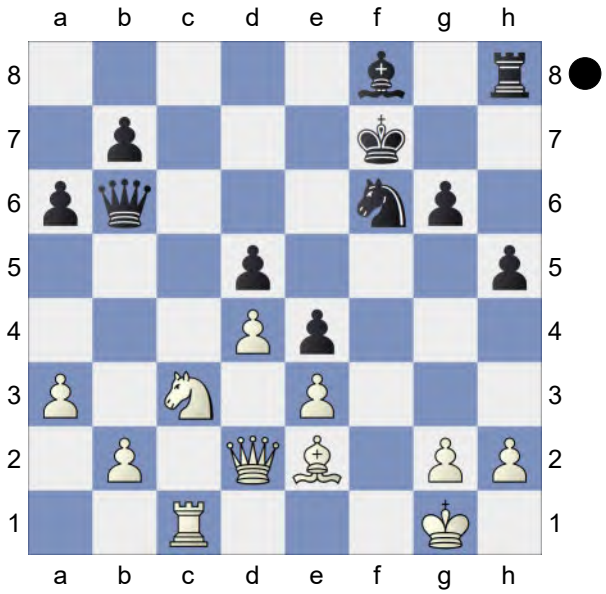
44...Qb6 45.Kg2 Qc7 46.Qe4 39.65/30
[⌓46.Kh3 #19/29 h5 47.gxh5 *(47.Qe4 h4+-)* 47...Kh7 48.Qe4+ Kh6 49.Kg4 Qa7 50.c7 Qg1+ 51.Kf3 Qh1+ 52.Ke3 Qe1+ 53.Kd4 Qg1+ 54.Qe3]

46...Kg8 47.Kf1 15.50/27
[⌓47.Kf2 #18/32 Qa7+ 48.Qe3 Qa8 49.c7 Kh7 50.Qf3 Qc8 51.Qh1 Qd7 52.Qe4+ Kg8 53.Qa8+ Kh7 54.Qd8 *(54.c8R Qd2+ 55.Kg3 Qe1+ 56.Kh2 Qxe5+ 57.Kg2 Qe2+ 58.Kg3 Qe1+ 59.Kh2 Qe5+ 60.Kg2 Qe2+ 61.Kg3 Qe1+ 62.Kh3 Qxc3+ 63.Kg2 Qd2+ 64.Kf3 Qd1+ 65.Kg3 Qe1+ 66.Kg2 Qe2+ 67.Kh3 Qe3+ 68.Kg2 Qe2+ 69.Kh3 Qd3+ 70.Kh2 Qd6+ 71.Kg2 Qd2+ 72.Kf1 Qd3+ 73.Kf2 Qd4+ 74.Kf1 Qd1+ 75.Kf2 Qd4+ 76.Kg2 Qxg4+ 77.Kf2 Qd4+ 78.Kg3 Qf4+*

79.Kh3 Qe3+ 80.Kg2 Qd2+ 81.Kh3 Qc3+ 82.Kg2 Qd2+ 83.Kf3 Qf4+ 84.Kg2 Qd2+=)]
47...Kh8 48.Kf2 Qd4 would kill now.
48...h5 49.Qd4 30.67/28
[⌓49.Qe3 #10/22 Qc8 50.Qxg5 Qg8 51.Qxh5+ Qh7 52.Qxh7+ *(52.c7 Qxh5* Remove Defender *53.gxh5 Kg8 54.Kf3 Kh7 55.Kg3 Kg8 56.c8Q+ Kh7 57.Kf4 Kh6 58.Qh8#)* 52...Kxh7 53.c7 Kh6 54.Kf3 *(54.c8B Kg5 55.Kf3 Kh6 56.Bd7 Kh7 57.Bxb5 Kg8 58.Bc6 Kh8)* 54...Kg6 55.c8Q *(55.c8B Kh7 56.Ba6 Kh8 57.Bxb5 Kg8 58.Bd7 Kh8 59.b5 Kg8)* 55...Kg5 56.Qf8 Kh4 57.Qh6#]
49...Kh7 50.Qd7
[Not 50.gxh5 Qxc6 51.Qa7 Qe8=]
50...Qb6+ Weighted Error Value: White=0.54/Black=1.25 **51.Ke2**
1-0

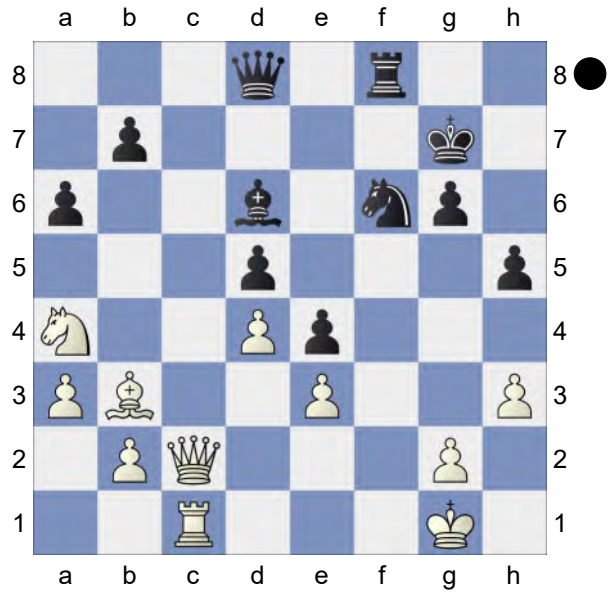
215 **C11**
☐ **PuffinBot** **2639**
■ **admonitor** **2888**
Rapid 16.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 5min+5sec C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.Nf3 Qb6 8.a3 f6 9.Nf4** -0.39/18
[9.exf6= 0.27/19 Nxf6 10.c4]
9...fxe5∓ 10.Nxe6 -0.47/18
[10.dxe5= 0.07/19 Ndxe5 11.Nxe5 Nxe5 12.c4]
10...cxd4! Black is slightly better.
11.cxd4 e4! 12.Nfg5 Nf6 13.Bf4 Prevents Bd6. **13...Bxe6 14.Nxe6** And now Nc7+ would win. **14...Kf7 15.Nc7 Rd8 16.Nb5 Rc8** Repels Bc7
[16...a6? 17.Bc7 Bc5 18.Bxb6+-]
17.Be3!
[17.Be2 a6 18.Bg4 Rd8∓]
17...Ne7N
[17...a6 18.Nc3=]
[17...Na5 18.Rb1 a6 19.Nc3 Qb3 20.Qxb3 Nxb3 21.g4 h6 22.Bg2 Bxa3 23.Nxd5 Nxd5 24.bxa3 Rc3 25.Bxe4 Nxe3 26.fxe3 Rxe3+ 27.Kf2 Rxe4 28.Rxb3 b5 29.a4 Rxd4 30.axb5 axb5 31.Rxb5 Rxg4 32.Rg1 ½-½ Perez Berenguer,V (2674)-Kolmakov,S (2500) Saint Petersburg 69/(427) 1997 (11.8) Rxg1 33.Kxg1 Rc8 34.Rb6 Rc2 35.Ra6 h5 36.Rb6 Re2 37.Ra6 Re6 38.Ra5 Kg6 39.Kg2 Kh6 40.h4 Re4 41.Kg3 Re3+ 42.Kg2 Re4 ½-½ Nisipeanu,L (2674)-Kindermann,S (2500) Bundesliga 1819 2018 (11.8)]
18.Qd2 Nf5 19.Be2 h5 Black has more active pieces. **20.0-0 g6 21.Rac1 Rxc1 22.Rxc1 a6** Against a4 **23.Nc3 Nxe3 24.fxe3** -0.87/19
[24.Na4∓ -0.41/21 Qd8 *(24...Qb3 25.Rc7+ Kg8 26.Nc5=)* 25.fxe3]



24...Qd8 -0.39/20

[24...Qe6!∓ -0.87/19]
25.Bd1 -0.76/19
[25.Qe1∓ -0.39/20 should be considered.]
25...Kg7 -0.40/18
[25...Bh6∓ -0.76/19]
26.Bb3 Be7 27.h3 Rf8 28.Na4 -1.57/19
[28.Rf1∓ -0.49/17]
28...Bd6∓ White does not recover from this. **29.Qc2?** -9.98/21
[29.Nc5∓ -1.22/18 Qe7 30.Qb4]



29...Ng4!-+ (→ ...Qh4!) **30.Nc5 Bxc5**
[30...Nxe3 31.Ne6+ Kf6 32.Nxd8±]
31.Qxc5 Nxe3 32.Qc7+ Qxc7 33.Rxc7+ Endgame KRB-KRN. Black is a pawn up. **33...Kh6 34.Rd7 h4** And now ...Rf1+ would win. **35.Bxd5 Rf1+ 36.Kh2 Nf5** (→ ...Ng3)
[Weaker is 36...Nxd5 37.Rxd5 Rd1 38.b4∓]
37.Rf7 e3 38.Bc4 Re1 39.Rxf5 gxf5 KR-KB **40.b3 e2** -15.52/27
[⌓40...b5 -33.12/30 41.Bd3 e2 42.Bxe2 Rxe2]
41.Bxe2 Rxe2 KR-KP **42.Kg1 Kg5** -26.69/34
[⌓42...Rd2 -#16/34 43.d5 Rxd5 44.a4 a5 *(44...Rd1+? 45.Kf2-+)* 45.Kf2 Rd2+ 46.Kf3 Kg5 *(46...Rd3+? 47.Kf4-+)* 47.g4 fxg4+ 48.Ke3 Rd8 49.hxg4 h3 50.Kf3 h2 51.Kg2 Rd2+ *(51...Kxg4 52.Kxh2 Kf3 53.Kg1 Rh8 54.b4 b6 55.bxa5 bxa5 56.Kf1 Rh1#)* 52.Kh1 Kxg4 53.b4 Kh3 54.bxa5 Rd1#]
43.d5 Rd2 44.Kf1 Kf4 45.Ke1 Ke3 46.d6 Rxd6 47.b4 b5 -33.87/15
[⌓47...Rc6 -#7/16 48.Kd1 b5 49.a4 f4 *(49...bxa4 50.b5 axb5 51.g4 hxg3 52.h4 g2 53.h5 g1Q#)* 50.a5 Rc8 51.g4 fxg3 52.Ke1 Rc1#]
48.a4 bxa4 -34.37/15
[⌓48...Rc6 -#6/14 49.Kd1 f4 *(49...bxa4* gets mated. *50.g3 hxg3 51.b5 axb5 52.h4 g2 53.h5 g1Q#)* 50.g4 fxg3 51.axb5 axb5 52.Ke1 Rc1#]
49.b5 a3 Black mates. **50.g4 a2 51.Kf1 a1Q+ 52.Kg2** Weighted Error Value: White=1.00/Black=0.80 **52...Rd2# 0-1**

216 **C11**
□ **MisterRengar** **2638**
■ **ArasanX** **3060**
Rapid 10.11.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 5min+5sec C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 ChessCalisthenics: 'C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4'
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Qb6 7.f4 Be7N
[7...f6 8.Nf3 cxd4 *(8...Be7 9.f5 cxd4 10.Nexd4 Nxe5 11.Nxe5 fxe5 12.Qh5+ Kd8 13.Nxe6+ Bxe6 14.fxe6 Qxe6 15.Be2 g6 16.Bg4*

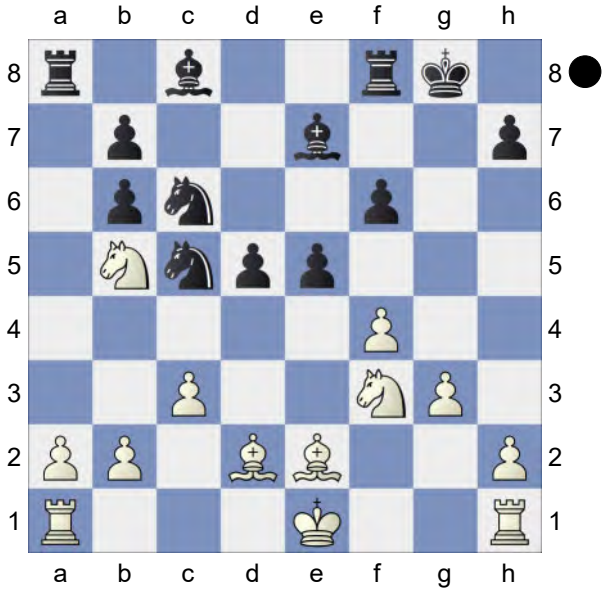
Qd6 17.Qh3 Nc6 18.Bh6 Bf8 19.0-0 Bxh6 20.Qxh6 Kc7 21.Rf7+ Kb6 22.Raf1 a5 23.h3 1-0 Morozevich,A (2678)-Bareev,E (2729) Amber XII Blindfold 2003 (9)*)* 9.cxd4 Bb4+ 10.Nc3 Nc6 11.a3 Bxc3+ 12.bxc3 Na5 13.a4 Qc7 14.Qc2 Nb6 15.exf6 gxf6 16.f5 C 11/06 2000 Nbc4 17.fxe6 Bxe6 18.Bd3 0-0-0 19.0-0 Nd6 20.Bf4 Nac4 21.Rae1 Qd7 22.Nh4 Rdf8 23.a5 Rf7 24.a6 b6 25.Qb1 Rg8 26.Rf2 Rg4 27.g3 Rg8 28.Qb4 Bg4 29.Ng2 Bf5 30.Bxc4 Nxc4 31.Rfe2 0-1 Ehlvest,J (2620)-Dolmatov,S (2615) 48/389 Clermont Ferrand 1989]

8.Nf3 0-0 The position is equal. **9.g3 f6 10.Qb3 cxd4 11.Qxb6 axb6 12.exf6 gxf6 13.Nexd4 Nc5 14.Be2 Nc6 15.Bd2** -0.96/21

[15.Be3= -0.01/20]

15...e5!∓ 16.Nb5 -1.09/17

[16.fxe5∓ -0.62/21 fxe5 17.Nxc6 bxc6 18.Nxe5]



16...Bh3! Black is more active. This move loses the game for White. **17.a3?** -2.25/20

[17.Nc7∓ -0.62/19]

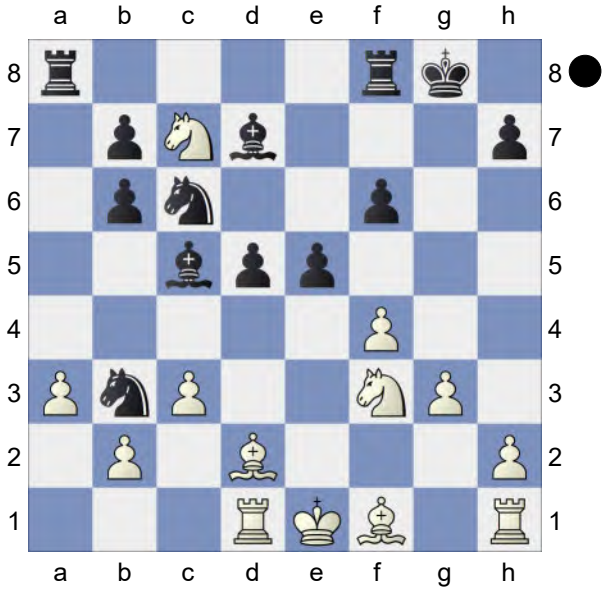
17...Nb3-+ 18.Rd1 -2.31/21

[18.Rb1 -1.61/19]

18...Bc5 19.Bf1 -2.40/20

[⌓19.Nc7 -1.93/19 Ra4 20.f5 *(20.Nxd5 Re4∓)*]

19...Bd7 20.Nc7



Ra4 21.Bd3 -3.39/20 Prevents Re4+.

[21.Bg2 -2.34/17 e4 22.Ng1]

21...Bg4 22.Nh4 Rc8

[22...Bxd1 23.Kxd1 Nxd2 24.Kxd2∓]

23.Bc2 -4.50/20

[⌓23.Nxd5 -3.03/18 Bxd1 24.Kxd1]

23...Re4+

[23...Rxc7? 24.Bxb3 Re4+ 25.Kf1∓]

[23...Bxd1 24.Kxd1 Nxd2 25.Kxd2-+ *(25.Bxa4? Ne4-+)*]

24.Bxe4 dxe4 25.Nd5 Bxd1 26.Kxd1 Kf7 27.c4 -5.97/20

[27.Be1 -4.23/18 might work better. Nca5 28.Kc2]

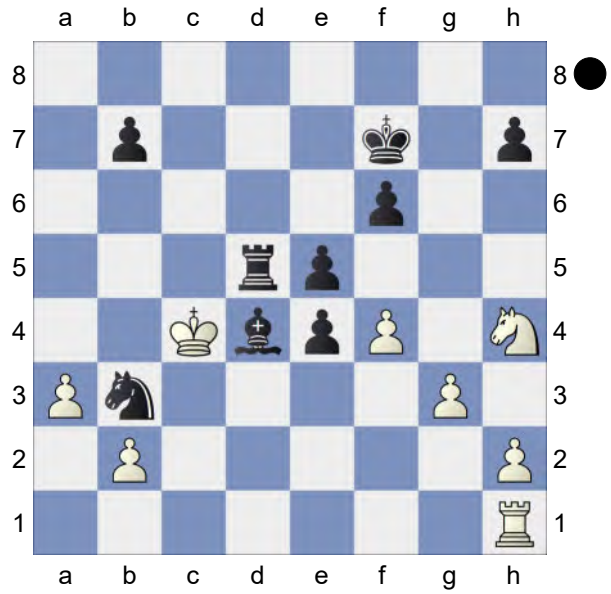
27...Rd8 28.Kc2 -7.38/19

[⌓28.a4 -4.63/18 Nxd2 29.Kxd2 exf4 30.gxf4]

28...Ncd4+ 29.Kc3 b5 30.Be3 bxc4 31.Bxd4 Bxd4+

[Weaker is 31...Rxd5 32.Bxc5 Nxc5 *(32...Rxc5 33.Nf5∓)* 33.Kxc4∓]

32.Kb4 Rxd5 33.Kxc4



Ke6! 34.Kxb3 Endgame KRB-KRN **34...Rb5+** Skewer, Deflection **35.Kc4 Rxb2 36.a4 Rc2+ 37.Kb3 Rc3+ 38.Kb4 Kd5 39.a5 exf4 40.Ng2 f3 41.Nf4+ Ke5 42.Rf1 Rc2 43.Kb3 Rxh2 44.Rd1 e3** and ...Ke4 should not be overlooked **45.Kc4 Rd2 46.Rh1 e2 47.Nxe2 fxe2** KRB-KR **48.a6 bxa6** -15.36/22

[⌓48...b5+ -#20/26 49.Kxb5 Rd1 *(49...Rb2+? 50.Kc4-+)* 50.a7 Bxa7 *(50...Rxh1? 51.a8Q-+; 50...e1Q 51.Rxe1+ Rxe1 52.a8Q±)* 51.Rxh7 Kd6 *(51...e1B? 52.Re7+ Kf5 53.Rxa7-+)* 52.Rxa7 Rb1+ *(52...e1R? 53.Ra3-+; 52...e1Q* gets mated. *53.Ra6+ Kd5 54.Ra5 Rb1+ 55.Ka6+ Kc6 56.Ra2)* 53.Kc4 e1Q *(53...e1B? 54.g4-+)* 54.g4 Rb4+ Skewer 55.Kd3 Rb3+ *(55...Rxg4 56.Ra6+ Kc5 57.Ra5+ Qxa5 58.Ke2 Rg2+ 59.Kf3 Qd2 60.Ke4 Qf2 61.Kd3 Qf3#)* 56.Kc2 Rc3+ 57.Kb2 Qd2+ 58.Kb1 Rc1#]

49.Rxh7 Ke4 Black mates. **50.Rh1 Rd1 51.Rh4+ Ke3 52.Kd5 Ba1+ 53.Ke6 e1Q 54.Kf7 Rd7+ 55.Ke8 Ra7 56.Kf8 Qxg3 57.Rb4 Qd6+ 58.Ke8** Weighted Error Value: White=0.94/ Black=0.03 (flawless) **58...Qe7#**
0-1

217 **C11**
□ **Volokitin,Andrei** **2638**
■ **Baklan,Vladimir** **2636**
TCh-FRA Top 12 2014 (2.3) 25.05.2014
[Arkadij Naiditsch,TA]

It is a bit strange to see Volokitin on a rating of 2638. For many years Andrei was very close to 2700 and over it a few times. In the current game, White got a promising position out of opening, but a very sharp one and with just one greedy move things turned completely and Black could develop a deadly attack. It is a bit strange to see Volokitin on a rating of 2638. For many years Andrei was very close to 2700 and over it a few times. In the current game, White got a promising position out of opening, but a very sharp one and with just one greedy move things turned completely and Black could develop a deadly attack. C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6** Baklan is a big specialist in French playing it almost all life long Baklan is a big specialist in French playing it almost all life long **2.d4 d5 3.Nc3** 3.Nc3 is clearly the most principled move, putting a lot of pressure on Black's position from the start. 3.Nc3 is clearly the most principled move, putting a lot of pressure on Black's position from the start. **3...Nf6**

[3...Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 Qc7 8.Qxg7 Rg8 9.Qxh7 cxd4 10.Ne2 is the other very

sharp line which is quite critical in the current theory. is the other very sharp line which is quite critical in the current theory.]

4.e5

[4.Bg5 is the other main move.]

4...Nfd7 DIAGRAM **5.f4** Quite typic al for the French, the game will involve a fight for the central pawns. Black will as usual attack the d4 pawn with c5 and Nc6 and White will try to keep solid and develop some play on the kingside, where he has more space. Quite typic al for the French, the game will involve a fight for the central pawns. Black will as usual attack the d4 pawn with c5 and Nc6 and White will try to keep solid and develop some play on the kingside, where he has more space. **5...c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3** Of course this is all still theory. **7...Be7** Black is preparing to castle kingside, followed by the usual a6-b5. Black is preparing to castle kingside, followed by the usual a6-b5. **8.dxc5**

[8.Qd2 followed by Be2 and 0-0 is the other possible way to go on. Also the idea of Nd1 and c3 is interesting. followed by Be2 and 0-0 is the other possible way to go on. Also the idea of Nd1 and c3 is interesting.]

8...0-0 9.Qd2 White is preparing to castle queenside. White is preparing to castle queenside. **9...Nxc5 10.0-0-0 a6** is one of the main moves for Black. The idea is simple, to play b5-b4 with a quick play. is one of the main moves for Black. The idea is simple, to play b5-b4 with a quick play. **11.Qf2** 0.25/19 White chooses a very aggressive setup. DIAGRAM White chooses a very aggressive setup. DIAGRAM

[11.Nd4 -0.05/19 11.Bxc5 0.49 would be a more solid way to go on.]

[11.Kb1± 0.61/21]

11...b6N ! A very nice move. Black must keep his knight on c5 at any costs. Of course Black is cancelling his idea of playing b5, but he has a new one. A very nice move. Black must keep his knight on c5 at any costs. Of course Black is cancelling his idea of playing b5, but he has a new one. White has an edge.

[11...Qa5 12.Kb1 Bd7 13.f5 exf5 14.Rxd5 Ne4 15.Rxa5 Nxf2 16.Rd5 Nxh1 17.Rxd7 b5 18.Bd3 f4 19.Bb6 Rab8 20.Nd5 Rfe8 21.Nd4 Nxe5 22.Rxe7 f6 23.Bc7 Ra8 24.Bxh7+ Kh8 25.Bf5 1-0 Topalov,V (2738)-Sankalp,G (2400) Gibraltar Masters 2020 (1.4)]

12.g4?! 0.07/19 ?! I am not sure if this move was really needed.

[12.f5!? 0.10/20 12.Kb1 0.47 !? Kh8 13.h4 0.09/20 and things are very unclear. (White should play *13.Be2!±* 0.66/19)]

[12.Kb1± 0.51/20]

12...f6 0.58/19 Now we can see Black's idea behind 11. ..b6. The white queen on f2 is now getting exposed and the f4 pawn could become a weakness. Now we can see Black's idea behind 11. ..b6. The white queen on f2 is now getting exposed and the f4 pawn could become a weakness.

[12...Bb7= 0.07/19]

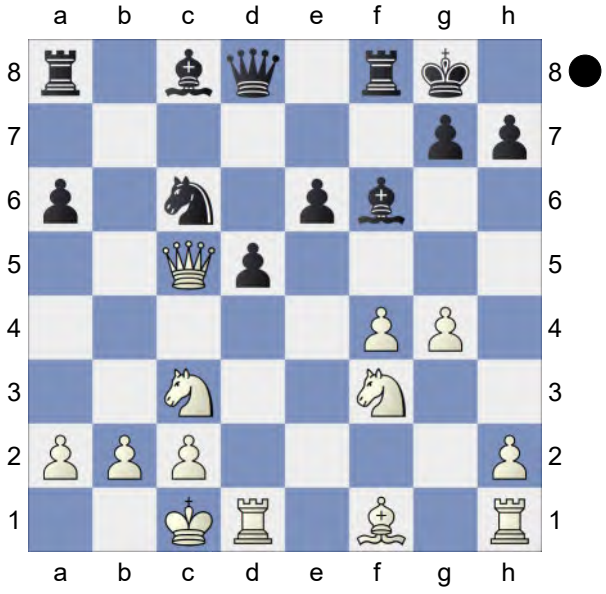
13.exf6± White already has no choice but to take on f6, stopping Black from playing fxe5 himself. White already has no choice but to take on f6, stopping Black from playing fxe5 himself. **13...Bxf6** This is the critical position. This is the critical position. **14.Bxc5?** -1.17/21 ? And this is already a serious positional mistake. Whatever you do,

you just can't give up the black squared bishop, who is holding almost everything together. Another very negative point for White is that Black's play on the b-file could lead to a very dangerous attack, as the combination of Bf6 and Rb8 is very strong. And this is already a serious positional mistake. Whatever you do, you just can't give up the black squared bishop, who is holding almost everything together. Another very negative point for White is that Black's play on the b-file could lead to a very dangerous attack, as the combination of Bf6 and Rb8 is very strong.

[A possible way to go on was 14.Qe1 Qc7 15.Bg2 0.12/19 and the position would remain complicated. and the position would remain complicated. *(15.Rg1!± 0.53/21)*]

[14.Qe1± 0.52/20 stays ahead.]

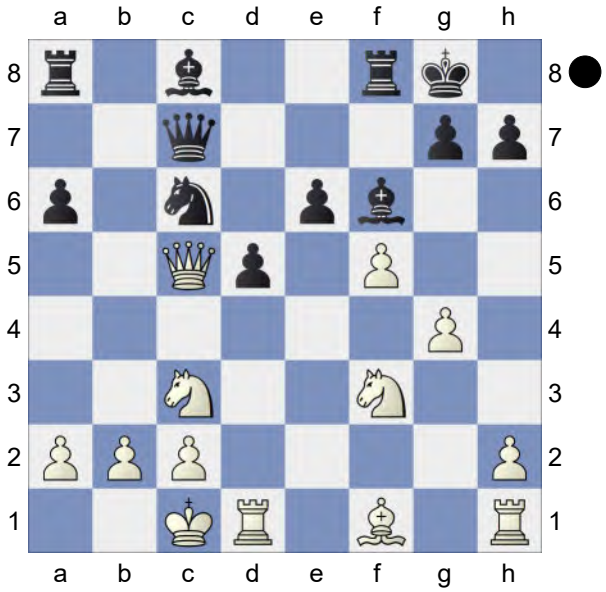
14...bxc5∓ 15.Qxc5



White was greedy and went for the pawn, but now Baklan is showing us perfectly why moves liks Bxc5 should never be played.DIAGRAM White was greedy and went for the pawn, but now Baklan is showing us perfectly why moves liks Bxc5 should never be played.DIAGRAM **15...Qc7!** -0.47/21 ! A perfect move. Black is defending the knight on c6 and at the same time attacking the f4 pawn. A perfect move. Black is defending the knight on c6 and at the same time attacking the f4 pawn.

[Better is 15...Bd7!∓ -1.17/21 and ...Qb8 should not be overlooked 16.Nxd5 exd5]

Loses the game. **16.f5?** -2.15/20



Opening the position even more when it is clear that the black pieces are going to be dominating the entire board is not the best decision either. Opening the position even more when it is clear that the black pieces are going to be dominating the entire board is not the best decision either. **16...Rb8!-+** ! Another excellent move by Baklan. Black is fixing the b2 pawn and is ready for the final blow. Another excellent move by Baklan. Black is fixing the b2 pawn and is ready for the final blow.

[16...exf5? 17.Nxd5 *(17.Rxd5 fxg4 18.Nd2 Be7∓)* 17...Qa7 18.Qxc6+- *(18.Nxf6+ Rxf6 19.Qd5+ Be6+-)*]

17.fxe6? -4.87/22 Volokitin continues

not feeling the danger and opens the position even more. Volokitin continues not feeling the danger and opens the position even more.

[17.Bg2 -1.75/19 Be7 *(17...exf5 18.g5±)* 18.Qe3]

17...Bxe6 Black is not getting tempted by a possible win of material. Black is not getting tempted by a possible win of material.

[17...Qf4+ was not the best since after was not the best since after 18.Rd2 Qxf3 Black is a piece up, but White has a nice "zwischenzug": 19.Bg2! ! and the game would be back in unclear waters.]

18.g5 Volokitin finally tries to get rid of the monster bishop on f6, but it is already too late to save the game. Volokitin finally tries to get rid of the monster bishop on f6, but it is already too late to save the game. **18...Bxc3** Black does not care anymore about exchanging the perfect bishop and is forcing a direct end of the game. Black does not care anymore about exchanging the perfect bishop and is forcing a direct end of the game.

[18...Qf4+? 19.Nd2 Bxc3 20.bxc3-+]

19.Qxc3 and Nd4! would now be decisive **19...Qf4+** From now on everything is very forced. **20.Nd2?** -7.15/24 This was the only possible reply because of the Qxf3 threat. DIAGRAM This was the only possible reply because of the Qxf3 threat. DIAGRAM

[20.Kb1 -3.93/21 Qxf3 21.Qxf3 Rxf3 22.Bxa6]

20...Nb4! ! This is probably the last important move in the game. Black is attacking the a2 pawn and at the same time he wants to play Rfc8 to put pressure on the c2 pawn. White has no decent defence against it anymore. This is probably the last important move in the game. Black is attacking the a2 pawn and at the same time he wants to play Rfc8 to put pressure on the c2 pawn. White has no decent defence against it anymore. **21.Qa3** The only way to avoid a direct loss of material. The only way to avoid a direct loss of material.

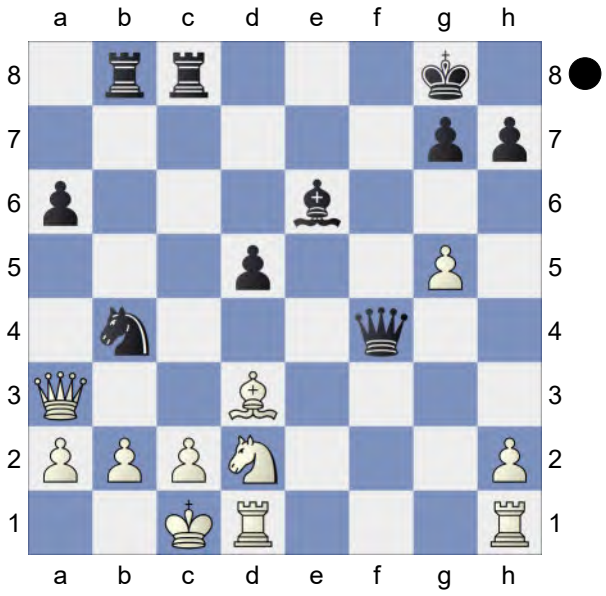
[21.Kb1 d4 and the a2 pawn is going to fall. and the a2 pawn is going to fall.]

21...Rfc8 What a perfect domination of the black pieces. We don't see this kind of attack against the white king very often, especially in the French defence. What a perfect domination of the black pieces. We don't see this kind of attack against the white king very often, especially in the French defence.

[21...Qxg5 22.Bh3 Qg6 23.Bxe6+ Qxe6 24.Rdf1-+]

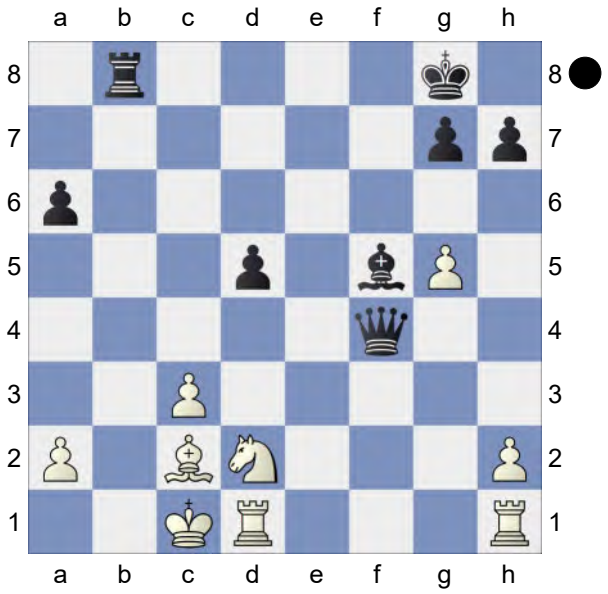
22.Bd3

[22.c3 was losing to d4 as dxc3 is unavoidable. as dxc3 is unavoidable.]



22...Nxc2! The most simple. 22...Bf5 was of course winning too. The most

simple. 22...Bf5 was of course winning too. **23.Bxc2** DIAGRAM **23...Bf5** The game is over. Rxc2 can't be avoided.
[23...Qxg5? 24.Kb1 *(24.Qxa6? Bf5-+)* 24...Rxc2 25.Nb3-+ *(25.Kxc2? Bf5+ 26.Kc1 Rc8+-+)*]
24.Qc3 Rxc3 25.bxc3



Qe3! A pretty way to finish White. Black just wants to play Qxc3 next. A pretty way to finish White. Black just wants to play Qxc3 next. **26.Rdf1**
[26.Rhe1 Qxc3]
26...Be4 -14.09/20
[⌓26...Qxc3 -#14/25 27.Rxf5 Rb2 *(27...Qb2+? 28.Kd1-+)* 28.Rf8+ Decoy Kxf8 29.Rf1+ Kg8 30.Kd1 Qxc2+ *(30...Rxc2* gets mated. *31.Rf2 d4 32.Ke2 Rxd2+ 33.Kf1 Qh3+ 34.Rg2 Qxg2+ 35.Ke1 Qf2#)* 31.Ke2 Qxd2+ 32.Kf3 Qg2+ *(32...Qxg5 33.Re1 Qf5+ 34.Kg3 h5 35.Re8+ Kh7 36.Re2 Rxe2 37.h4 Qg4#)* 33.Kf4 Qe4+ *(33...Qxf1+ 34.Ke5 Qc4 35.Kd6 Rb6+ 36.Kd7 Qc6+ 37.Ke7 Qd6+ 38.Ke8 Rb8#)* 34.Kg3 Rg2+ Skewer 35.Kh3 Qg4#]
27.Rhg1 Qxc3 28.Nxe4 Weighted Error Value: White=1.89/Black=0.27 (precise) **28...dxe4** We just saw a very beautiful game and a great example of what White should never do. We just saw a very beautiful game and a great example of what White should never do.
0-1

218 **C11**
□ **BulletCoach** **2637**
■ **Buhmann** **2726**
Blitz 15.04.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Qh5 c5 6.Nf3** -0.51/22
[6.dxc5!= -0.05/22 should be considered. Nc6 *(6...Nxc5 7.Nf3=; 6...Bxc5 7.Nf3=)* 7.Bg5]
6...Nc6 0.58/21
[6...g6∓ -0.51/22 7.Qg5 Qxg5 8.Bxg5 a6]
7.Ng5!± g6 8.Qf3 White is better.
8...Qe7 2.01/22
[8...f6± 0.61/22 9.Nxe6 Ndxe5 10.Qxd5 *(10.Nxd8 Nxf3+ 11.gxf3 Nxd4∓; 10.dxe5 Bxe6 11.Qxf6 Qxf6=)* 10...Qxd5 11.Nxd5 Bxe6 12.Nxf6+ Kf7 13.dxe5 Nb4]
9.Nb5+- Nxd4? 3.50/23
[9...Ndxe5 1.85/22 10.dxe5 Nxe5]
10.Nd6+ Deflection, Double Attack
10...Kd8 11.Ngxf7+
[11.Ndxf7+ Kc7 12.Qh3 Nxc2+ 13.Kd1 Nxa1=]
11...Kc7 12.Qc3
[12.Nb5+ Nxb5 13.Bxb5 *(13.Nxh8? Nd4-+)* 13...Bg7±]
12...Bg7 13.f4N -1.23/19
[13.Bg5+- 3.20/21 Qf8 14.f4 h6

15.Bd8+ Kb8 16.Bb5 b6 17.Rd1 Nf5 18.Qa3 a6 19.Bxd7 Nxd6 20.exd6 Qxf7 21.Bc7+ Kb7 22.Qb3 Bxd7 23.Qxb6+ Kc8 24.Bd8 Bb5 25.Be7 Kd7 26.Qb7+ Ke8 27.Qxa8+ Kd7 28.Qb7+ Ke8 29.Qc8# 1-0 Smith,A-Hanley,C British Rapidplay Championship 1987]

13...Rf8↑ White is under strong pressure. **14.Ng5 h6 15.Nf3** -1.40/21

[Better is 15.Nge4 -0.76/18 dxe4 16.Be3]

15...Nxf3+ 16.gxf3 b6? -0.08/19

[16...Qh4+-+ -1.76/19 17.Kd1 g5]

17.Be3? -3.11/20

[17.h4!= -0.08/19]

17...Kb8? 0.27/24

[17...Qh4+-+ -3.11/20 18.Kd1 d4 19.Bxd4 Qxf4 20.Nb5+ Kd8 *(20...Kb8? 21.Bf2-+)*]

18.0-0-0 Qxd6 0.86/21

[18...g5= 0.18/21]

19.exd6± Bxc3 20.bxc3 Rf6 21.Rg1 Kb7 22.h4 0.47/20

[22.c4± 0.91/22]

22...h5 1.46/22

[22...Nf8!± 0.47/20]

23.Rg5? -0.07/21

[23.Bd3± 1.46/22]

23...Kc6 1.09/27

[23...Nf8!= -0.07/21]

24.Bd3 Nf8 25.c4! aiming for a4.

25...Kxd6 26.cxd5 0.09/21

[26.f5!± 1.24/24 gxf5 27.Rxh5]

26...exd5= 27.Be4 -0.01/20

[27.Rxd5+± 0.45/25 Kc7 *(27...Kxd5 28.Be4+ Ke6 29.Bxa8=)* 28.Be4]

27...Be6 28.Bxd5 -0.39/21

[28.Rdxd5+= 0.01/28 Bxd5 29.Rxd5+ Kc7 30.f5 gxf5 31.Bf4+ Kc8 32.Bxf5+ Kb7 33.Bg5]

28...Bxd5∓ 29.Rdxd5+ -1.03/26

[29.Rgxd5+= -0.26/24 remains equal. Kc6 30.R1d3]

29...Kc6∓ 30.c4? -2.42/25

[30.Rde5∓ -0.77/23]

30...Re8? -0.40/23

[30...Ne6-+ -2.42/25 31.Rg2 Nxf4 32.Bxf4 Remove Defender Rxf4 33.Rxg6+ Kb7 34.Rxh5 Rxc4+ 35.Kb2 Re8 36.Rh7+ Ka6]

31.Rde5 -2.56/26

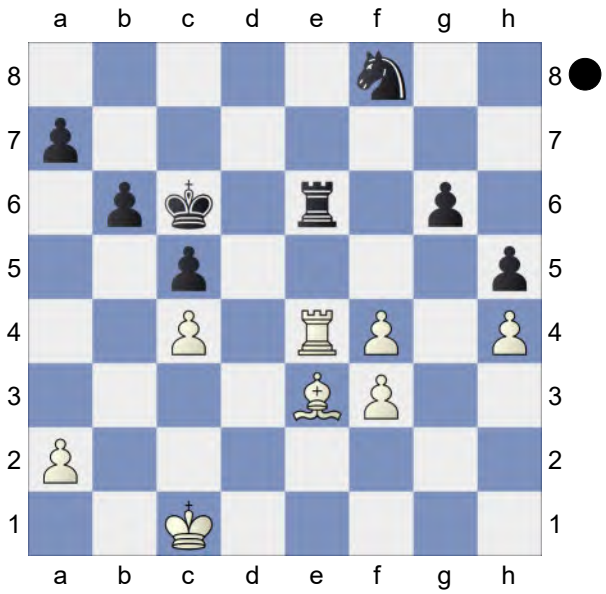
[31.Rge5!∓ -0.40/23 Ne6 32.f5 gxf5 33.Rxf5 Rxf5 34.Rxf5]

31...Rxe5-+ 32.Rxe5 Endgame KRB-KRN **32...Re6?** -0.08/28

[32...Kd7-+ -2.44/22 33.Kd1 Ne6 34.Rd5+ Kc8]

33.Re4 -1.00/25

[33.Kc2= -0.08/28]



33...Kd6 -0.49/26

[Black should try 33...Kd7!∓ -1.00/25]

34.Kc2 -1.92/29

[34.Bd2!∓ -0.49/26]

34...Ke7 -1.28/26

[34...Nd7-+ -1.92/29 35.a4 Rf6]

35.Kd3∓

[35.f5? Rxe4 *(35...gxf5? 36.Bg5+ Kd6 37.Rxe6+ Nxe6 38.f4-+)* 36.Bg5+ *(36.fxe4? gxf5 37.exf5*

Kf6-+) 36...Kd6 37.fxe4 gxf5 *(37...Ke5 38.Be7±)* 38.exf5 Ke5-+]

35...Kf6 -0.10/25 Prevents Re5

[35...Kf7∓ -1.41/24 ...Nd7 is the strong threat. 36.Re5 Rxe5 37.fxe5 Nd7]

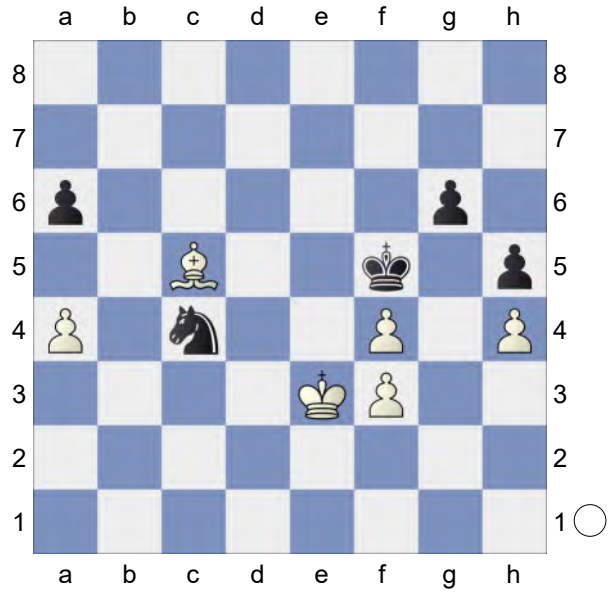
36.Bd2= Kf5 37.Ke3 Nd7 38.Bc3 a6 39.a4 Nb8 40.Be5 Nc6 41.Bc7 Na5 42.Kd3 Nb7 43.Rxe6 Kxe6 44.Bxb6 KB-KN. White is a pawn up. **44...Kf5** 1.03/29

[44...Kd6= -0.01/30]

45.Ke3± Nd6? 4.97/32

[45...Ke6± 1.09/27]

46.Bxc5+- Nxc4+



47.Kd3! Nb2+ 5.52/30

[47...Na5 2.66/29 was necessary. 48.Be3 Nc6]

48.Kd4?? -7.11/28

[48.Kc2+- 5.52/30]

48...Nxa4-+ Black is clearly winning.

[Worse is 48...Kxf4 49.a5=]

49.Ba7 Kxf4 50.Kd5 Kxf3 51.Ke6 Kg4 52.Kf6 Kxh4 53.Kxg6 Kg4 54.Kf6 h4 55.Ke5 h3 56.Bg1 Kg3 57.Kd4 Quite a comeback for Black. Weighted Error Value: White=1.04/ Black=0.77 **57...Kg2**

0-1

219 **C11**

□ **Pichot,Alan** **2637**

■ **Grischuk,Alexander** **2745**

MrDodgy Inv 3 Finals (2.2) 29.11.2022

[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Qb6 9.Qd2 Qxb2 10.Rb1 Qa3 11.Bb5! Nxd4 12.Bxd4 a6 13.Bxd7+ Bxd7** White is slightly better. **14.Rb3 Qe7**

[14...Qa5? 15.Bb6+- *(15.Rxb7 Bb4∓)*]

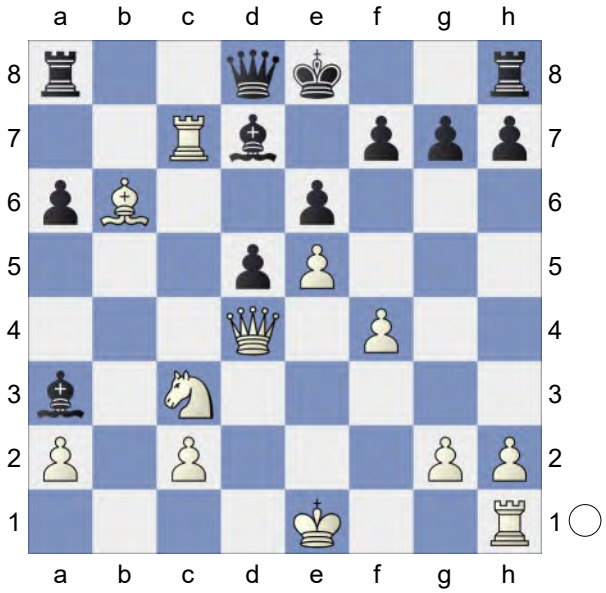
15.Rxb7 Qh4+! 0.84/21 is currently scoring better than 15...Rc8. wohl besser als 15...Tc8.

[Black should play 15...Qd8!± 0.34/21]

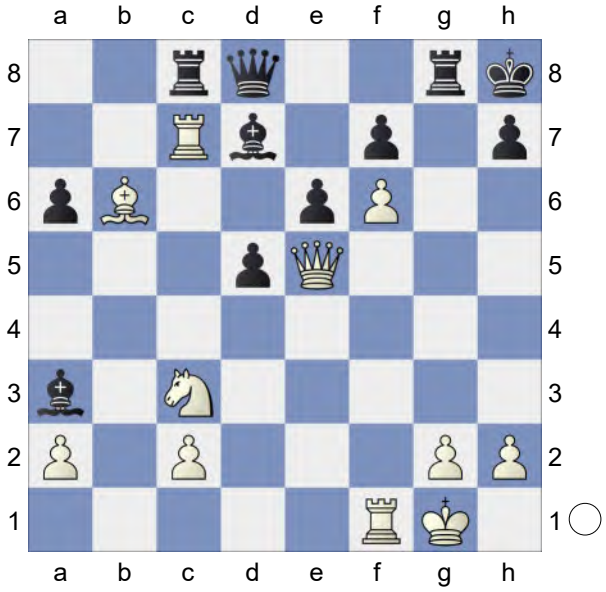
16.Bf2 0.36/18

[Better is 16.Qf2!± 0.84/21 Be7 17.Qxh4 Bxh4+ 18.Ke2]

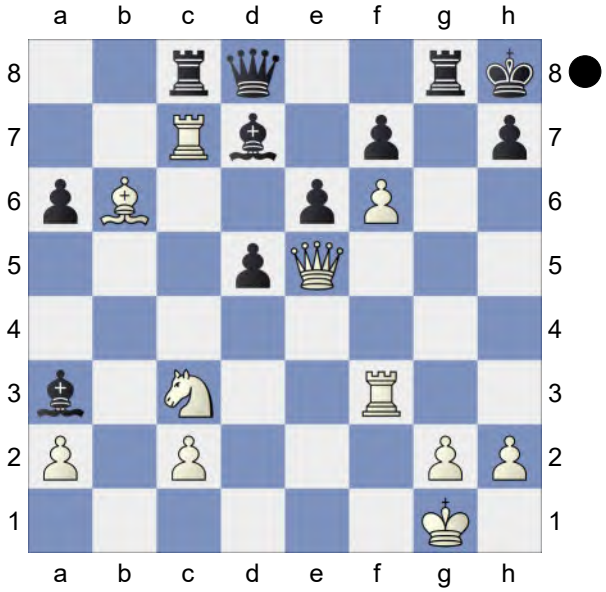
16...Qd8± 17.Bb6 Qc8 18.Rc7 Qd8 19.Qd4! Inhibits Bc5. **19...Ba3**



20.f5 0.01/18
[20.Nb1!± 0.42/20 is more appropriate. Be7 21.Nc3 *(21.c4 Rc8 22.Rb7 Bb4+ 23.Kf2 Qxb6 24.Rxb6 Bc5 25.Rd1 Bxd4+ 26.Rxd4 dxc4 27.Nc3 Rc7 28.Rxa6 Ke7 29.Rb6 Ra8 30.Ke3 Ra3 31.Kd2 Ra5 32.g3 f6 33.exf6+ gxf6 34.Kc1 h5 35.Kb2 h4 1-0 5.f4 00 6.♘f3 ♘a6_53215 (2741)-Tandi,E (2655) 6 Moscow 1947 (2.1))*]
20...0-0? 2.61/20
[20...Rc8!= 0.01/18 21.Rc6 Qe7 22.Rxc8+ Bxc8]
[20...Bb2 21.fxe6 fxe6 22.0-0 Rc8 23.Qf2 Qe7 24.Bc5 Rxc7 25.Bxe7 Kxe7 26.Qb6 Rxc3 27.Qxb2 Rhc8 28.Qb4+ R8c5 29.Qb8 1-0 Schlegel,I (2269)-Milovic,I (2029) Wch U20 62nd 2025 (8)]
21.f6!+- gxf6 2.90/22
[21...Rc8± 1.57/19 22.Ra7 Discovered Attack Qe8]
22.exf6N -0.01/19
[Vorgänger: 22.0-0! Black must now prevent Ra7. f5? 7.13/21 *(22...Rb8* 2.00/19 *)* 23.Rf3+- Bb2 24.Rb7 Against Rb8 Qc8 25.Rg3+ Kh8 26.Qh4 f6 27.exf6 Rf7 Inhibits Rg7.
A) 28.Qh5!+- 7.23/20 Qf8 *(28...Qe8 29.Qh6)* 29.Bd4;
B) 28.Rg7? -0.01/22 28...Rxg7!= 29.fxg7+ 1-0 (84) Pichot,A (2637)-Grischuk,A (2745) Chess.com INT 2022 Kg8 30.Rc7 Qe8 31.Bd4 Rc8 32.Rxc8 Qxc8 33.Qe7 Qe8 34.Qd6 f4 35.Qxf4 Ba3 36.Nd1 e5 37.Qxe5 Qxe5 38.Bxe5 Bc5+ 39.Kf1 Bb5+ 40.Ke1 Bc4 41.a4 d4 42.c3 dxc3 43.Bxc3 Bd5 44.g3 1-0 Pichot,A (2637)-Grischuk,A (2745) MrDodgy Online Inv Finals 3rd blitz 2022 (2.4)]
[Only move: 22.0-0!+- 2.90/22]
22...Kh8= **23.0-0⇄** White has counterplay **23...Rc8** **24.Qe5** **Rg8?** 1.65/19
[24...Rxc7= -0.01/23 25.Bxc7 Qc8]



25.Rf3?? -5.83/20
[25.Rb7!+- 1.65/19 was the only winning move. Bc5+ 26.Bxc5 Rxc5 27.Rf3]

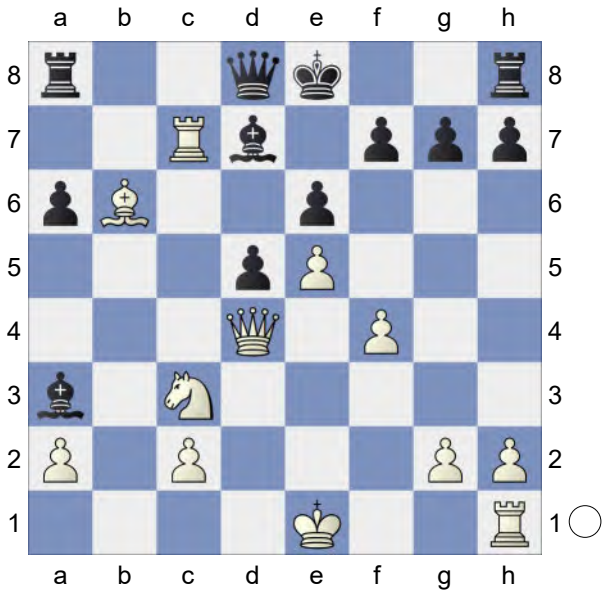


25...Rxc7? -0.25/18
[25...Bc5+!-+ -5.83/20 26.Bxc5

(26.Rxc5? Qxb6 27.Ne4 dxe4-+) 26...Qxc7 *(26...Rxc7 27.Rh3±)*]
26.Bxc7 Qf8 Black continues to play with concentration. **27.Rh3?** -2.68/21
[27.h3!∓ -0.36/19]
27...Rg6 28.Ne2? -4.54/23
[28.Kh1 -2.03/20 was necessary. Qc5 29.Rf3]
28...Qc5+-+ 29.Qd4 -8.46/22
[⩲29.Nd4 -4.30/21 Bb2 30.Rh4]
29...Bb5
[29...Qxc2 30.Rxa3 Qxe2 31.Bg3-+]
30.Rc3 Bc4 This pair of bishops is nice.
31.Bb6 -6.75/22
[⩲31.Qxc5 -4.07/22 Bxc5+ 32.Kh1]
31...Qxd4+? -2.26/21
[31...Qb4 -6.75/22 32.h3 Bxe2 33.Rc8+ Rg8 34.Qxb4 Bxb4]
32.Bxd4 -3.94/21
[32.Nxd4 -2.26/21 was the only chance. Rxf6 33.Nf3]
32...Bd6 33.Re3 h5
[33...Bxa2 34.Kh1-+]
34.a4 Kh7 35.g3 -6.05/21
[⩲35.h3 -4.18/18]
35...h4 36.Kf2 Bxe2
[And not 36...e5 37.Bxe5 hxg3+ 38.hxg3 Bxe5 39.Rxe5=]
37.Rxe2 hxg3+ 38.hxg3 Bxg3+ Endgame KRB-KRB. Black is a pawn up.
[38...Rxg3 39.Bc5 Bf4 *(39...Bxc5+ 40.Kxg3 Kg6 41.Kf3=)* 40.Rxe6∓]
39.Kf3 Bd6 40.Ke3 Rg3+ 41.Kd2 Kg6 42.c3 Bf4+ 43.Kc2 Rg5 44.Kb3 e5 45.Bb6 Rg3
[Less strong is 45...Kxf6 46.Bd8+ Kf5 47.Bxg5 Bxg5 48.Rf2+ Bf4 49.Rg2∓]
46.Bc7 Kxf6 47.Rf2 Ke6 48.Kb4 f5 49.Re2 Rg7 50.Bb6 e4 51.a5 Be5 52.c4 d4 53.c5 d3 54.Rd2 Kd5 55.c6 Kxc6 56.Kc4 Rd7 57.Bc5 Rd5 58.Bb6 f4 ...Kd6 is the strong threat. **59.Rh2 d2 60.Rh6+ Bd6 61.Rh1 d1Q 62.Rxd1** Weighted Error Value: White=1.11/Black=0.68 **62...Rxd1**
0-1

220 **C11**
□ **Neumann,J.** **2637**
■ **Ernst,Heinz** **2745**
EU-ch 23rd Vrnjacka Banja (2.2)
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Qb6 9.Qd2 Qxb2 10.Rb1 Qa3 11.Bb5! Nxd4 12.Bxd4 a6 13.Bxd7+ Bxd7** White is slightly better. **14.Rb3 Qe7**
[14...Qa5? 15.Bb6+- *(15.Rxb7 Bb4∓)*]
15.Rxb7 Qh4+ 16.Bf2 0.14/17
[16.Qf2!± 0.73/23 Be7 17.Qxh4 Bxh4+ 18.Kd2]
16...Qd8= 17.Bb6 Qc8 18.Rc7 Qd8 19.Qd4!↑ Dodges Bc5. White is more active. **19...Ba3**



20.f5 0.17/20

[20.Nb1!± 0.56/23 is superior. Be7 21.f5 *(21.c4 Rc8 22.Rb7 Bb4+ 23.Kf2 Qxb6 24.Rxb6 Bc5 25.Rd1 Bxd4+ 26.Rxd4 dxc4 27.Nc3 Rc7 28.Rxa6 Ke7 29.Rb6 Ra8 30.Ke3 Ra3 31.Kd2 Ra5 32.g3 f6 33.exf6+ gxf6 34.Kc1 h5 35.Kb2 h4 1-0 5.f4 00 6. ♘f3 ♘a6_53215 (2741)-Tandi,E (2655) 6 Moscow 1947 (2.1))*]

20...0-0? 2.88/23

[20...Rc8!= 0.17/20 and Black stays safe. 21.Rc6 Qe7 22.Rxc8+ Bxc8]

[20...Bb2 21.fxe6 fxe6 22.0-0 Rc8 23.Qf2 Qe7 24.Bc5 Rxc7 25.Bxe7 Kxe7 26.Qb6 Rxc3 27.Qxb2 Rhc8 28.Qb4+ R8c5 29.Qb8 1-0 Schlegel,I (2269)-Milovic,I (2029) Wch U20 62nd 2025 (8)]

21.f6!+- gxf6 22.exf6N -0.01/20

[22.0-0 f5? 7.54/22 *(22...Rb8* 2.20/21 *)* 23.Rf3+- Bb2 24.Rb7 Repels Rb8. Intending Rg3+ and mate. Qc8 25.Rg3+ Kh8 26.Qh4 f6 27.exf6 Rf7 Dodges Rg7

A) Better is 28.Qh5!+- 7.67/22 Qf8 *(28...Qe8 29.Qh6)* 29.Bd4;

B) 28.Rg7? -0.01/27 28...Rxg7= 29.fxg7+ Kg8 30.Rc7 Qe8 31.Bd4 Rc8 32.Rxc8 Qxc8 33.Qe7 Qe8 34.Qd6 f4 35.Qxf4 Ba3 36.Nd1 e5 37.Qxe5 Qxe5 38.Bxe5 Bc5+ 39.Kf1 Bb5+ 40.Ke1 Bc4 41.a4 d4 42.c3 dxc3 43.Bxc3 Bd5 44.g3 1-0 Pichot,A (2637)-Grischuk,A (2745) MrDodgy Online Inv Finals 3rd blitz 2022 (2.4) a5 45.Nb2 Bb3 46.Kd2 Ba3 47.Nd3 Bxa4 48.Bxa5 Kxg7 49.Bc3+ Kg8 50.Bb2 Bd6 51.Bd4 Bb5 52.Nf2 Be7 53.Ke3 Bc6 54.Nd3 Be8 55.Ne5 Bg5+ 56.Kf2 Be7 57.Nf3 Bf8 58.Ke3 Bf7 59.Be5 1-0 Neumann,J (2637)-Ernst,H (2745) EU-ch 23rd Vrnjacka Banja 2023 (2.4)]

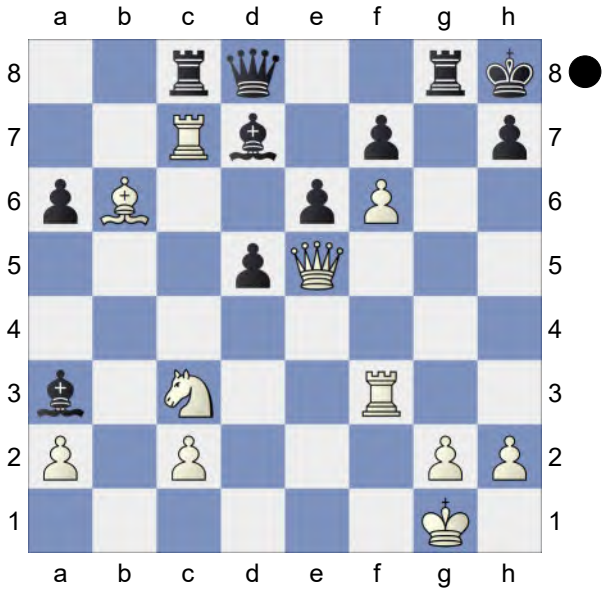
[22.0-0+- 3.09/24]

22...Kh8!= 23.0-0 Black must now prevent Ne4!. **23...Rc8 24.Qe5 Rg8** 1.39/22

[24...Rxc7= 0.01/23 remains equal. 25.Bxc7 Qa8]

25.Rf3? -5.97/22

[25.Rb7± 1.39/22 stays on course. Qe8 26.Rf3]



25...Rxc7? -0.29/22

[25...Bc5+!-+ -5.97/22 26.Bxc5 *(26.Rxc5? Qxb6 27.Ne4 dxe4-+)* 26...Qxc7 *(26...Rxc7 27.Rh3±)*]

26.Bxc7 Qf8 Black converts the advantage convincingly. **27.Rh3?** -2.78/26

[27.h3= -0.21/22]

27...Rg6-+ 28.Ne2? -5.31/22

[28.Rf3 -2.55/22 Bc5+ 29.Kh1]

28...Qc5+ 29.Qd4 -8.55/25

[⌓29.Nd4 -4.47/24 Bb2 30.Rh4]

29...Bb5

[29...Qxc2 30.Rxa3 Qxe2 31.Bg3∓]

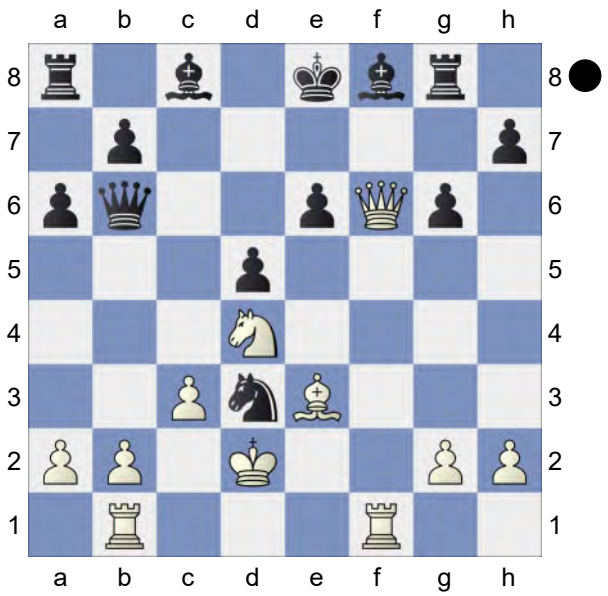
30.Rc3 Bc4 A strong pair of Bishops.

31.Bb6 -6.30/19

[⩲31.Qxc5 -4.18/23 Bxc5+ 32.Kh1]
31...Qxd4+? -2.26/19
[31...Qb4 -6.30/19 32.h3 e5 *(32...Bxe2? 33.Rc8+ Rg8 34.Qxb4-+)*]
32.Bxd4? -3.79/19
[32.Nxd4 -2.26/19 was necessary. Rxf6 33.Nf3]
32...Bd6 33.Re3 h5
[33...Bxa2 34.Kf2∓]
34.a4? -4.73/20
[34.Be5 -2.80/18 Bc5 Pin 35.Bd4 Bxd4 36.Nxd4 Rxf6 *(36...Bxa2 37.Rf3∓)* 37.Nf3]
34...Kh7 35.g3 -6.21/22
[⩲35.h3 -4.19/19]
35...h4 36.Kf2 Bxe2
[36...e5 37.Bxe5 hxg3+ 38.hxg3 Bxe5 39.Rxe5=]
37.Rxe2 hxg3+ 38.hxg3 Bxg3+ Endgame KRB-KRB. Black is a pawn up.
39.Kf3 Bd6 40.Ke3 Rg3+ 41.Kd2 Kg6 42.c3 Bf4+ 43.Kc2 Rg5 44.Kb3 e5 45.Bb6 Rg3
[And not 45...Kxf6 46.Bd8+ Ke6 47.Bxg5 Bxg5 48.Rg2∓]
46.Bc7 Kxf6 47.Rf2 Ke6 48.Kb4 f5 49.Re2 Rg7 50.Bb6 e4 51.a5 Be5 52.c4 d4 53.c5 d3 54.Rd2 Kd5 55.c6 Kxc6 56.Kc4 Rd7 57.Bc5 Rd5 (→ ...f4!) **58.Bb6 f4** Threatens to win with …Bf6. **59.Rh2 d2 60.Rh6+ Bd6 61.Rh1 d1Q** -12.23/5
[⩲61...e3 -#12/25 62.Rd1 e2 63.Rxd2 e1Q *(63...e1R? 64.Rxd5 Rc1+ 65.Kd4-+)* 64.Rxd5 Qe4+ 65.Kc3 Kxd5 *(65...Qxd5? 66.Ba7-+)* 66.Bf2 Qc4+ *(66...Qf3+* leads to mate. *67.Kc2 Qxf2+ 68.Kd3 f3 69.Kc3 Qe2 70.Kb3 Qd2 71.Ka4 Qd1#)* 67.Kb2 Be5+ *(67...Qe2+ 68.Kc3 Ba3 69.Be3 fxe3 70.Kb3 Qb2+ 71.Ka4 Qb4#)* 68.Bd4 Bxd4+ *(68...Kxd4? 69.Kb1 Kc3 70.Kc1 Qf1#)* 69.Ka3 Qb5 70.Ka2 Qb2#]
62.Rxd1 Weighted Error Value: White=1.16/Black=0.66 **62...Rxd1**
0-1

221 **C11**
□ **Svane,Frederik** **2636**
■ **Aronian,Levon** **2729**
CrunchLabs Masters PlayIn (2) 17.07.24
[Kitty Kat]

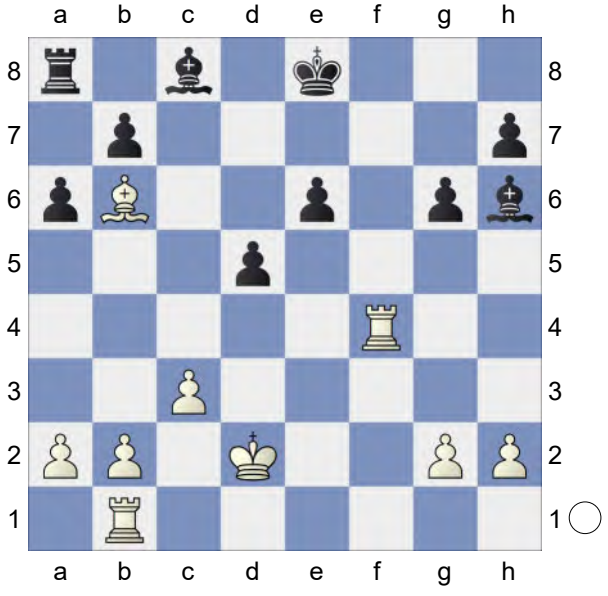
C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.Ne2 Qb6 9.Rb1** -0.01/18
[9.Qc1⩲ 0.48/17]
9...f6=
[9...Be7 10.c3 0-0 11.h4 f6 12.h5 cxd4 13.cxd4 fxe5 14.fxe5 Ndxe5 15.Nc3 Nxf3+ 16.gxf3 Bf6 17.Ne2 Bd7 18.Rg1 Rae8 19.Qd2 Bh4+ 20.Kd1 Rxf3 21.Bh6 Rf7 22.Bh3 Ref8 23.b4 Kh8 24.Be3 0-1 Fiorito,J (2411)-Rasti,A (2185) Titled Tuesday intern op 21st Jan Late blitz 2025 (10)]
10.c3 cxd4N
[10...Be7 11.Bf2 0-0 12.g3 cxd4 13.Nexd4 Nxd4 14.Bxd4 Bc5 15.Bxc5 Qxc5 16.Qd4 fxe5 17.Qxc5 Nxc5 18.Nxe5 Nd7 19.Nd3 e5 20.fxe5 Nxe5 21.Nxe5 Re8 22.Kd2 Rxe5 23.Bd3 Bf5 24.Rbe1 Be4 25.Bxe4 ½-½ Grischuk,A (2736)-Bluebaum,M (2670) World Rapid Team 2023 (9.3)]
11.Nexd4 fxe5 12.fxe5 Ndxe5 13.Nxe5 Nxe5 14.Qh5+ Nf7 15.Bd3 g6 16.Qf3 Ne5
[16...Qc7!?]
17.Qf6 Nxd3+ 18.Kd2 Rg8 19.Rhf1!



Really sharp! **19...Ne5** 1.05/20 Inhibits Qf7+. **20.Qxe5±** **Bg7** **21.Qf4** 0.08/19 White is much more active. The black rooks are passive. Black is weak on the dark squares

[White should play 21.Qg3± 0.91/22]

21...Rf8= **22.Nf5** Discovered Attack **22...Rxf5** **23.Bxb6** **Rxf4** **24.Rxf4** Threatens to win with Rb4. **24...Bh6!⇄**



Pin. Black has counterplay **25.Be3** **Bxf4** **26.Bxf4** Endgame KRB-KRB. Black is a pawn up. **26...Bd7** **27.Rf1** **Kf7** **28.Bd6+** **Kg8** **29.Ke3** **Rd8** ...Bb5 would now be deadly. **30.Rf6** **d4+** **31.cxd4** **Bc6** **32.Rxe6** **Bxg2** **33.Be5** **Rd7** Against Re7 **34.a3** **Kf7** **35.Rd6** **Rxd6** **36.Bxd6** KB-KB **36...Ke6** **37.Bb4** **Kf5** **38.Kf2** **Bd5** **39.Kg3** **Ke4** **40.Bc3** **Kd3** **41.Kf4** **Kc4** **42.Kg5** **Be4** **43.Kh6** **Kd5** **44.Kxh7** **Ke6** **45.Kh6** **b5** **46.Kg5** **Bc2** **47.Bd2** **Bb1** **48.Bc3** **Bc2** **49.Bd2** **Bb1** **50.Bc3** -0.01/36

[50.b4± 0.37/28 was preferable.]

Weighted Error Value: White=0.12 (very precise) /Black=0.09 (flawless) **50...Bc2!** **½-½**

222 **C11**

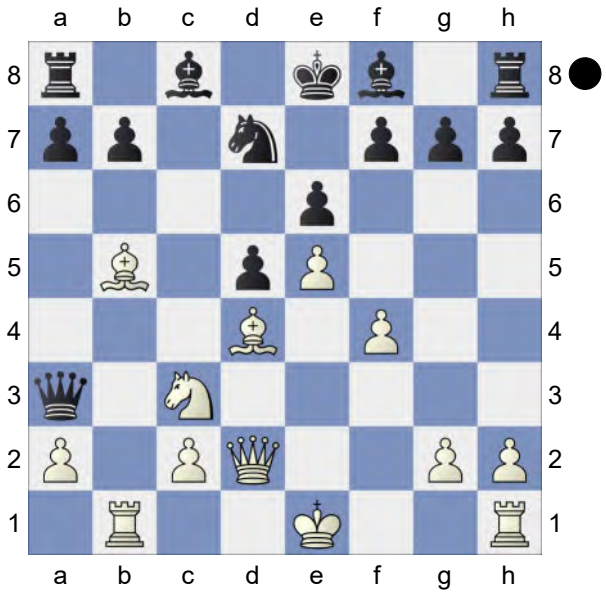
□ **Kollars,Dmitrij** **2635**

■ **Grischuk,Alexander** **2742**

Titled Tue 24. May Early (10) 24.05.2022

[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4** **e6** **2.d4** **d5** **3.Nc3** **Nf6** **4.e5** **Nfd7** **5.f4** **c5** **6.Nf3** **Nc6** **7.Be3** **cxd4** **8.Nxd4** **Qb6** **9.Qd2** **Qxb2** **10.Rb1** **Qa3** **11.Bb5!** **Nxd4** **12.Bxd4**



a6 **13.Bxd7+** **Bxd7** White is slightly better. **14.Rb3** **Qe7**

[14...Qa5? 15.Bb6+- *(15.Rxb7 Bb4∓)*]

15.Rxb7 Qh4+ 16.Qf2 Qxf2+ 17.Kxf2 Be7! 18.Rhb1 Bd8 19.Rb8! Rxb8 20.Rxb8 0-0 21.Ra8N -8.17/24

[21.Rb7± 0.59/31 Bc6 22.Ra7 Ba5 23.Rxa6 Bxc3 24.Bxc3 Rc8 25.Ke3 Bb5 *(25...Bb7 26.Ra3 h5 27.Kd2 d4 28.Bxd4 Bxg2 29.Ra7 Rc4 30.c3 h4 31.Ke3 g6 32.a4 Kg7 33.Kd3 Bd5 34.h3 g5 35.fxg5 Kg6 36.Be3 Rc6 37.Rd7 Rc4 38.Rd8 Rxa4 39.Rh8 Bc4+ 40.Kd2* 1-0 Baracu,N (2372)-Lopez,R (2247) Cappelle op 25th 2009 (6)*)* 26.Ra5 Bf1 27.Kf2 h5 28.Bd4 Bc4 29.a4 Kh7 30.Ra7 Kg6 31.a5 Rb8 32.Bb6 Rc8 33.Bd4 Rc6 34.Re7 Rc8 35.g3 Ba6 36.c3 Rb8 37.Bb6 1-0 Madaminov,M (2521)-Murzin,V (2657) Tashkent Al Beruniy-A 2nd 2025 (6)]

[21.Ke3 Ba5 22.Rb7 Bc6 23.Ra7 Ra8 24.Rxa8+ Bxa8 25.Na4 Bc6 26.Nc5 Bb5 27.c3 Bc7 28.Nb7 Bc6 29.Nc5 a5 30.g4 Kf8 31.f5 ½-½ Mardov,D (2432)-Preotu,R (2493) Charlotte CCCSA Fall GM-A 2022 (3)]

21...Ba5? 0.01/26

[21...Bh4+-+ -8.17/24 22.g3 Bxg3+ *(22...Rxa8? 23.gxh4 Rb8 24.Ke3-+)* 23.hxg3 Rxa8]

22.Rxa6= Bxc3 23.Bxc3 Endgame Black must now prevent Ra7. KRB-KRB. White is a pawn up. **23...Rc8 24.Ra3 h5 25.Ke3 Rc4 26.g3 Kh7 27.Kd2 Ba4 28.Ke3** -1.10/24

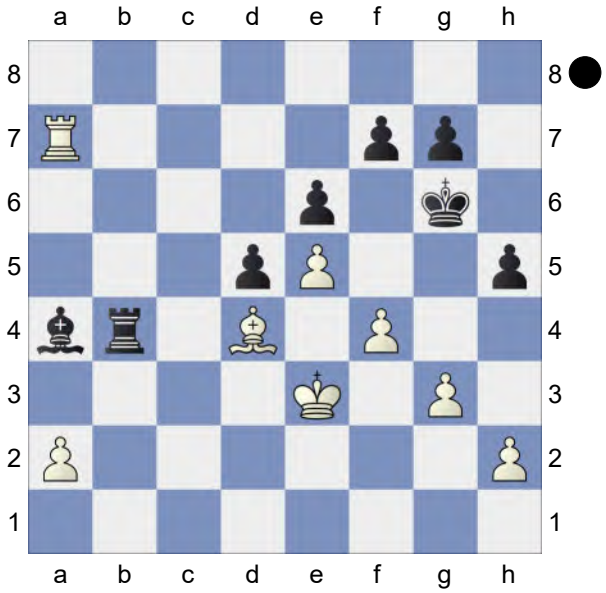
[28.Rb3= 0.13/25 remains equal.]

28...Bxc2∓ Black is more active. **29.Bd4 Ba4** -0.02/22

[29...Bf5∓ -1.13/21 30.h4 Rc2]

30.Rc3= Rb4 31.Rc7 Kg6 32.Ra7 -1.02/22

[32.f5+= -0.01/18 exf5 33.h4]



32...Bc2!∓ 33.Bc3 Rc4 34.Bd4 Be4 -0.39/21

[34...Bf5∓ -0.88/22 35.Rb7 Rc1]

35.a4∓ Rc2 36.Rb7? -3.42/20

[36.a5!∓ -0.53/19]

36...Rxh2 -1.58/23

[36...Ra2-+ -3.42/20 has better winning chances. Hoping for ...Ra3+. 37.Bc3 Rxa4 *(37...Rxh2? 38.Be1-+)*]

37.Rb2? -5.25/24

[37.a5∓ -1.58/23 was the crucial defense. Ra2 38.Bc3]

37...Rh3 38.Kf2 h4 39.gxh4 Ra3 40.Rb4 Kf5 -1.66/22

[⌓40...Ra2+ -2.89/22 41.Ke3 Kh5]

41.Be3? -3.87/20

[41.Bb2 -1.66/22 keeps fighting. Ra2 42.Ke3]

41...Kg4 42.Rb7? -10.38/24

[42.Bc5 -2.57/19]

42...Ra2+-+ Black is clearly winning.

[42...Rxa4 43.Rxf7 Ra2+ *(43...Kxh4 44.Rxg7 Ra2+ 45.Ke1∓)* 44.Ke1-+]

43.Ke1 Kf3

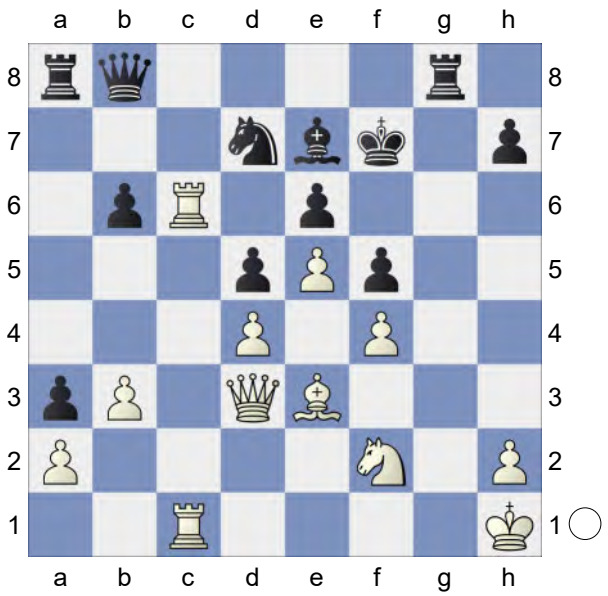
[43...Kxh4? 44.Rxf7 g6 *(44...Rxa4 45.Rxg7 d4 46.Bf2+ Kh3 47.Rg3+*

Kh2 48.Rg8∓) 45.Ra7-+]
44.Bb6 d4 45.Bxd4 Weighted Error Value: White=1.07/Black=0.59 **45...Bxb7 0-1**

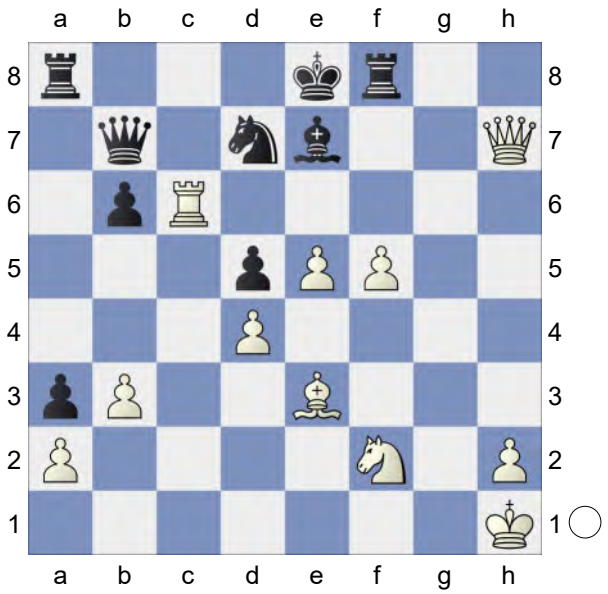
223 **C11**
□ **Tari,Aryan** **2634**
■ **Gheorghiu,Calin** **2283**
Chess.com INT blitz (1) 21.04.2020
[Kitty Kat,TA]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 This game is probably the single most important game of my life so far. Winning this game gave me my final norm and secured me the IM title. Since it was played in a league match, the captains of our respective teams agreed that I would play Board One against Peter Roberson to guarantee me the rating average I needed to make the norm if I won. Therefore, I knew exactly who I would be playing a week in advance. Back then, Peter almost exclusively played the French Defense with Black. He's also a 1 e4 player and usually plays 3 Nd2 against the French. Therefore, it made sense for me to focus on 3 Nc3, which is considered more challenging for Black anyway, and prepare it deeply. My opponent had chosen a few different lines against 3 Nc3 over the years, but I was able to narrow it down to the Winawer (3...Bb4) and the following two lines after 3... Nf6:4 e5 Nfd7, 5 f4 c5, 6 Nf3 Nc6 7 Be3 be7 8 Qd2 a6 and 6...Be7 7 Be3 b6!? The latter had been used to good effect by Harikrishna against Giri, and at the time, the ball was in White's court theoretically. I decided it was worth preparing for this in some detail. I have shared my preparation with you below and have updated the lines with recent games. **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Be7 7.Be3 b6 8.Qd2 0-0** White is slightly better. **9.Nd1** 0.13/18
[9.h4± 0.55/16 is superior.]
9...a5 0.55/18
[9...cxd4= 0.13/18 10.Nxd4 Bb7]
10.c3± a4 11.Bd3 Ba6 12.0-0 Bxd3
[12...Nc6 13.Bxa6 Rxa6 14.f5 b5 15.fxe6 fxe6 16.Qe2 Qb6 17.Nf2 a3 18.b3 b4 19.dxc5 Bxc5 20.Bxc5 Nxc5 21.c4 Ne4 22.cxd5 exd5 23.e6 Ne7 24.Kh1 Nc3 25.Qd3 h6 26.Nd1 Qb5 27.Qxb5 0-1 Giri,A (2790)-Harikrishna,P (2763) Norway Chess 4th 2016 (6)]
13.Qxd3 a3N
[13...Nc6 14.f5 a3 15.b3 cxd4 16.cxd4 Nb4 17.Qe2 exf5 18.Bd2 Nb8 19.Ne3 Qd7 20.Bxb4 *(20.Nh4 Nc2 21.Nhxf5 Nxe3 22.Bxe3 Kh8 23.Qf3 Nc6 24.Qg3 Rg8 25.Qh3 Qe6 26.Rf3 Bf8 27.Raf1 Nb4 28.R1f2 Rc8 29.Qh5 h6 30.Nxh6 gxh6 31.Rf6 Qxf6 32.Rxf6 Rg6 33.Rxg6 fxg6 34.Qxg6 Rc6* 1-0 Fitzsimons,D (2323)-Roberson,P (2410) 4NCL 2017/18 2021 (9)*)* 20...Bxb4 21.Nh4 g6 Baskin,R (2329)-Neef,M (2406) Deutschland 128/(95) 2015]
14.b3 Nc6 15.Nf2 cxd4 16.Nxd4 Nxd4 17.cxd4 and f5 would now be decisive **17...f5** 1.10/22
[Black should try 17...Nb8± 0.52/23]
18.Rac1 Qb8? 3.27/21
[18...Nb8± 0.84/19]
19.Rc6+- Kf7 20.Rfc1 Rd8 21.g4 g6 22.gxf5 gxf5 23.Kh1 Rg8

(Diagram)

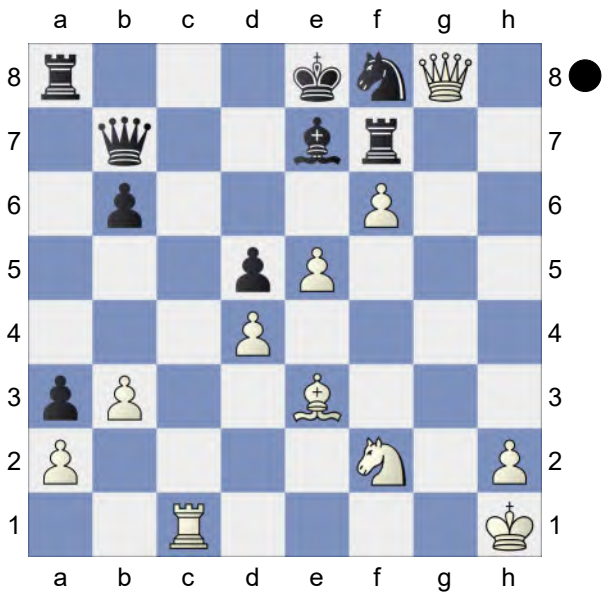


Inhibits Ng4. **24.Rxe6?** 0.47/20 **Kxe6±** **25.Rc6+ Kf7 26.Qxf5+ Ke8?** 8.31/21
[26...Kg7± 0.66/22]
27.Qxh7+- Rf8 28.f5 Qb7



29.f6! Rf7
[29...Nxf6 30.exf6]
30.Qg8+ Nf8 31.Rc1? -0.01/20
[31.Re6+- 7.89/23]

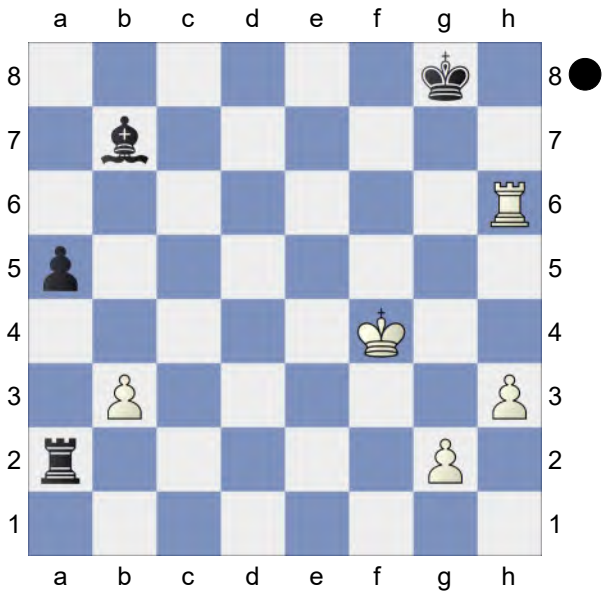
(Diagram)



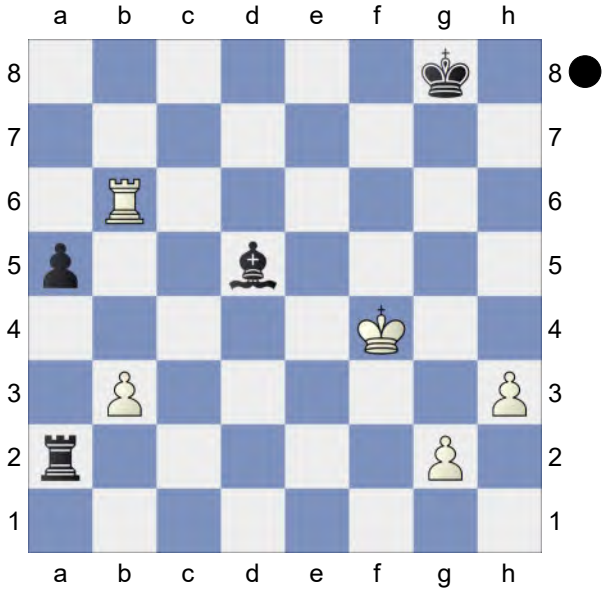
31...Qd7? 4.02/23 **32.fxe7 Qxe7** 3.92/21
[32...Kxe7 2.68/21 might work better. 33.Ng4 Ke8]
33.Ng4 1.82/23
[⌓33.Rc6 3.92/21]
33...Qe6 34.Nf6+?? -7.89/22
[34.Qg5+- 2.42/20]
34...Rxf6-+ Pin, Discovered Attack. Black is clearly winning. **35.Qg3 Rf7 36.Bg5 Rc8 37.Qe3 Rxc1+ 38.Qxc1 Qd7 39.Bf6 Ne6 40.Qh6 Qc6 41.Qg6 Qc1+**
[41...Nxd4 42.Qg8+ Rf8 43.Qg6+ Kd7 44.Qg7+ Ke6 45.Qxf8∓]
42.Qg1 Qxg1+ 43.Kxg1 Nxd4 44.h4 Ne6 and ...d4 would now be decisive
45.h5 Never resign too early! Weighted Error Value: White=1.11/Black=0.88
45...Rh7
0-1

224 **C11**
□ **MaxtheDog** **2634**
■ **ArasanX** **3053**
Rapid 27.02.2025
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 10min+5sec C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 Inf 63/241
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.Qd2 b5 9.dxc5 Bxc5 10.Bxc5 Nxc5 11.Qf2 Qb6 12.Bd3 b4 13.Ne2 a5 14.0-0 0-0
[14...Rb8 15.Kh1 Nxd3 16.cxd3 Qxf2 17.Rxf2 Ba6 18.Rd1 Ke7 19.Ned4 Nxd4 20.Nxd4 Rbc8 21.g3 g6 22.Kg2 Rc7 23.Kf3 Rhc8 24.Ke3 h5 25.h3 a4 26.g4 hxg4 27.hxg4 Rh8 28.Rf3 f6 29.exf6+ 0-1 Romero Holmes,A (2455)-Schwartzman,G (2495) (open) 63/241 1995]
15.Rfd1N -0.28/21
[⌓15.Kh1 0.09/22 Ra7 16.Ned4 Ba6 17.Rad1 Ne4 18.Qe3 g6 19.Rfe1 Nxd4 20.Nxd4 Nc5 21.g4 Re8 22.f5 exf5 23.gxf5 Rae7 24.Qf4 Bxd3 25.cxd3 Qc7 26.Nb5 Qb8 27.Nd6 Rd8 28.d4 Rxd6 29.exd6 1-0 Haussernot,C (2097)-Chargelegue, T (1802) Sautron op 13th 2013 (6)]
15...Rb8 16.Rac1 The position is equal.
16...h6 17.b3 Ne7 18.h3 Ne4 19.Bxe4 dxe4 20.Qxb6 Rxb6 21.Nd2 Ba6 22.c4! bxc3 23.Nxc3 e3 24.Nde4 Rc8 25.Re1 Rbc6! 26.Rxe3 Nd5! 27.Rf3 f6 28.exf6 gxf6 29.f5 exf5 Deflection
30.Rxf5
[30.Rg3+? Kf8 31.Rd1 Nxc3-+]
30...Nxc3 31.Rxc3 Rxc3 32.Nxc3 Rxc3 33.Rxf6∓ Endgame KRB-KR
33...Rc1+ 34.Kh2 Bb7 35.Rxh6 Rc2! 36.Kg3 Rxa2
[36...Bxg2 37.a4∓]
[36...Rxg2+? 37.Kf4-+]
37.Kf4 -1.12/24
[37.Rb6∓ -0.42/24 Bxg2 *(37...Rxg2+ 38.Kf4∓)* 38.h4]



37...Bd5!∓
[37...Bxg2? 38.Rh5-+]
38.Rb6 -2.97/24
[38.Rg6+!∓ -0.64/23 Kf7 39.Rb6 Rxg2 *(39...Bxg2? 40.h4-+)* 40.Rb5]



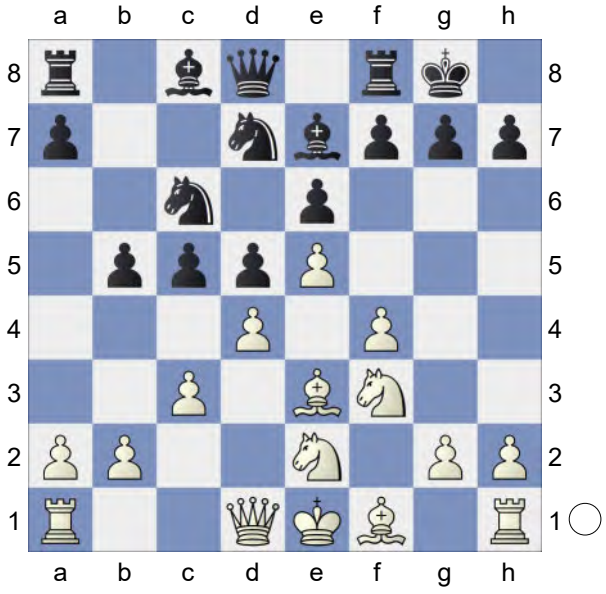
38...Ra3!-+
[38...Rxg2 39.Rb5 Be6 *(39...Rf2+*

40.Ke5∓) 40.Rxa5∓]
[38...Bxg2 39.h4-+]
39.g4? -3.50/24
[39.Rb8+∓ -1.48/23 Kg7 40.Rb5 Bxb3 *(40...Rxb3 41.Rxd5 Rb4+ 42.Kf5±)* 41.g4]
39...Bxb3
[39...Rxb3 40.Ra6-+]
40.Kg5? -4.36/24
[40.h4 -2.64/24 keeps fighting.]
40...Bd1 41.Rd6 Be2 42.Rd8+ Kf7 43.Ra8 Ra1
[43...Rxh3 44.Ra7+ Ke6 45.Rxa5∓]
44.h4 -5.89/23
[⌓44.Kf5 -3.69/23 Bd3+ 45.Kg5]
44...Ra4 45.h5 Rxg4+
[Inferior is 45...Bxg4 46.h6 Bf3 47.h7 Rg4+ *(47...Bxa8? loses. 48.h8Q+-)* 48.Kf5=]
46.Kf5 Rh4 47.Ra7+ Ke8 48.Ke5 Rxh5+
[48...Bxh5? 49.Ra8+ *(49.Rxa5 Bf3∓)* 49...Kd7 50.Rxa5∓]
49.Kd4 Bg4 50.Kc3 Bd1 51.Kb2 a4 52.Ka3 Kf8 53.Ra8+ Ke7 54.Ra6 Kf7 55.Kb2 Kg7 56.Ka3 Kh7 57.Rf6 Bb3 58.Rf2 Kh6 59.Rg2 Rf5 60.Rg1 Bc2 61.Rh1+ Kg5 62.Rh3 Rf4 63.Rc3 Bb3 64.Rc1 Kf6 65.Rc5 Be6 66.Rc3 Rh4 67.Rc5 Bb3 68.Ra5 Kg6 69.Rc5 Rg4 70.Rc8 Rh4? 0.01/23
[70...Kf5-+ -6.33/21 71.Rf8+ Ke6]
71.Rc5!= Kf6? 0.01/22
[Black should play 71...Rh3-+ -6.51/21 72.Kb4 Rh4+ 73.Ka3]
72.Ra5! Rh3 73.Rc5 Bd1+ 74.Kb4 a3 (→ ...a2) **75.Rc6+ Kg5 76.Rc5+ Kh6 77.Ra5 Rb3+ 78.Kc4 Kh7 79.Ra6 Kg8 80.Ra7 Bc2 81.Kd5 Bh7?** -0.64/21
[81...Bb1-+ -10.02/23 82.Kc4 Re3]
82.Kc4!∓ Bc2 0.01/21
[82...Rf3∓ -0.94/28 83.Ra8+ *(83.Kb4 Rf1∓)* 83...Kg7]
Black converts the advantage convincingly. **83.Kd5!= Rh3 84.Kc5 Bb1 85.Kc4 a2 86.Kd4 Rh4+ 87.Kc5 Rh7 88.Ra8+ Kf7 89.Kd4 Kf6 90.Ra6+ Kf5** ...Rh2 is the strong threat. **91.Ke3 Rh3+ 92.Kd4 Rd3+ 93.Kc4 Rd2** (→ ...Bd3+) **94.Ra5+ Kf4** (→ ...Be4) **95.Ra4 Bf5** -13.64/23
[⌓95...Be4 -#18/26 96.Kc3 Ke3 97.Ra7 Rc2+ 98.Kb3 Rd2 99.Kc3]
96.Kb5+ Ke5 97.Ra7 Be6 98.Kb4 Rd1 99.Kc3 a1Q+ 100.Rxa1 Rxa1 101.Kd2 Bc4 102.Ke3 Rf1 (→ ...Rf4) **103.Kd2 Kd4** Black mates. **104.Kc2 Rf2+ 105.Kc1 Kc3 106.Kb1** Weighted Error Value: White=0.37/ Black=0.06 (flawless) **106...Rf1#**
0-1

225 **C11**
□ **Tari,Aryan** **2631**
■ **Sklyarov,Dmitry V** **2450**
NOR-chT Elite 2324 (5.31) 03.02.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 Be7 8.Nf3 0-0 9.Be3 b5N**
[9...f6 10.g3 Qb6 11.Qd2
A) 11...fxe5 12.dxe5 Rd8 13.Bh3 d4 14.Bf2 d3 15.Nc1 Nf8 16.b3 Qa6 17.a4 b5 18.0-0 Bb7 19.Ra2 b4 *(19...c4 20.axb5 Qxb5 21.bxc4 Qxc4)* 20.c4 Na5 21.Be3 Nxc4 22.bxc4 Qxc4 23.f5 exf5 24.Bxf5 Qd5 25.Bxd3 c4 26.Bb1 0-1 9.Nd2 a5/ 14.Qc2 Ngf6 15.Bd3 (2730)-Winter (2628) Moscow IT 3rd 1936;
B) 11...cxd4 12.Nexd4 fxe5

13.Nxe6 d4 14.Bf2 Re8 15.Be2 Na5 16.f5 Nf6 17.Nxe5 Bxe6 18.Bxd4 Bc5 19.fxe6 Bxd4 20.cxd4 Rad8 Steinitz Variante-13 | Steinitz mit 5.f4 + 7.Se]



10.f5 -0.37/22 **cxd4∓** **11.cxd4** Black is slightly better. **11...Qa5+!** **12.Bd2** **Qb6** **13.h4** **Bb7** **14.Qb1** -1.38/19

[14.fxe6∓ -0.39/21 fxe6 15.Bf4]

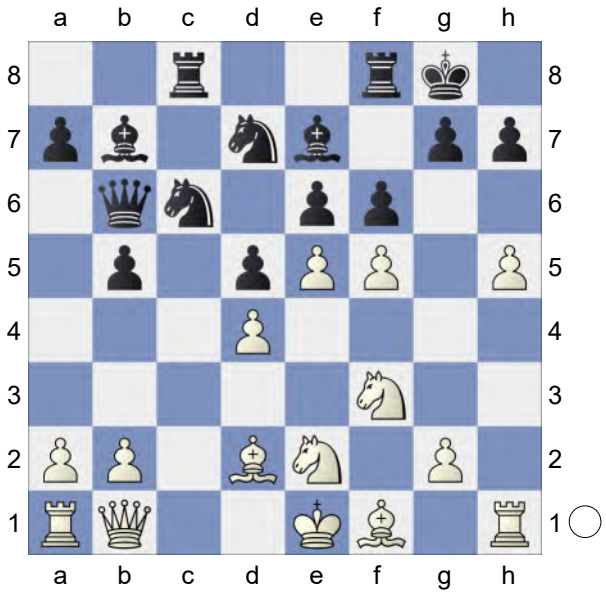
14...Rac8 -0.06/21

[14...f6∓ -1.38/19 15.fxe6 Ndxe5 16.dxe5 fxe5]

15.h5= **f6** 1.24/18

[15...b4= -0.07/20 keeps the balance.]

(Diagram)



16.h6!↑ White is in control.

[16.fxe6 Ndxe5 17.dxe5 fxe5∓]

16...g6 2.26/18

[16...Ndxe5± 1.12/19 might work better. 17.dxe5 fxe5]

17.fxg6+- **fxe5** And now ...e4 would win. **18.gxh7+** **Kf7** **19.Rh5** **Nb4?** 4.03/20

[19...e4 2.19/18 was called for.]

20.Ng5+

[20.Nxe5+ Nxe5 21.Rxe5 *(21.dxe5? Nc2+ 22.Kd1 Qf2-+)* 21...Nc2+ 22.Kd1 b4±]

[20.dxe5 Nc2+ 21.Kd1 Qf2∓]

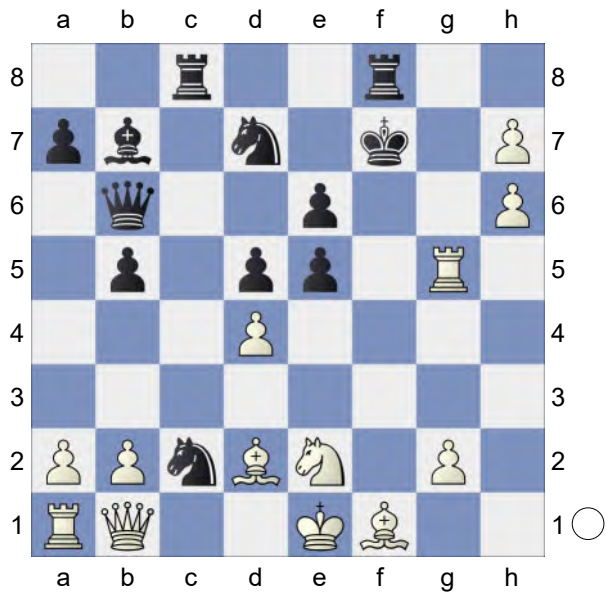
20...Bxg5 White is clearly winning.

21.Rxg5

[21.Bxb4 Be7+-]

21...Nc2+

(Diagram)



22.Qxc2!! Promotion **22...Rxc2** **23.Rg7+** **Ke8** Strongly threatening ... Qd8. **24.Rg8** **exd4** **25.h8Q**
[25.h8R d3 *(25...Rxb2? 26.Rxf8+ Nxf8 27.h7+-)* 26.Rxf8+ *(26.h7? Qf2+* Pin, Deflection, Double Attack *27.Kd1 Qxf1+ 28.Be1 Qxe2#)* 26...Nxf8=]
25...d3 **26.Rxf8+** **Nxf8** **27.Bb4** **dxe2** **28.Qxf8+**
[28.Bxf8? exf1Q+ 29.Kxf1 Qf2#]
28...Kd7 **29.Qf7+** 6.33/20
[⌓29.h7 17.17/20 Qd4 30.Qe7+ *(30.h8R exf1Q+ 31.Kxf1 Qd3+ 32.Kg1 Rxg2+ 33.Kh1 Rh2+* Decoy *34.Kxh2 Qe2+ 35.Kh3 Qd3+ 36.Kh4 Qe4+ 37.Kh5 Qe2+ 38.Kg6 Qg4+ 39.Kf7 Qf5+ 40.Kg8 Qxf8+ 41.Kxf8 a5; 30.h8Q exf1Q+ 31.Kxf1 Qxh8+-; 30.Bxe2 Qh4+ 31.Kd1 Qxh7+-)* 30...Kc8 31.Qe8+ *(31.Qxe6+ Kb8+-)* 31...Kc7 32.Ba5+ *(32.h8R? exf1Q+* Discovered Attack *33.Kxf1 Qf2#)* 32...Kd6 33.Qd8+ *(33.h8R? exf1Q+* Discovered Attack *34.Kxf1 Qf2#)* 33...Kc5 34.Qe7+ *(34.h8B? exf1Q+* Discovered Attack *35.Kxf1 Qf2#)* 34...Kc4 35.Qb4+ *(35.Qxb7? exf1Q+* Discovered Attack *36.Kxf1 Qf2#)* 35...Kd3 36.Rd1+ *(36.Qxb5+ Ke4+-)* 36...Ke4 37.Qxd4+ Kf5 38.h8Q *(38.h8R exd1R+ 39.Kxd1 e5 40.Rf8+ Kg5 41.Qxe5+ Kh6 42.Rf6+ Kh7 43.Qe7+ Kh8 44.Rf8#)*]
29...Kc8 **30.Qg8+** Weighted Error Value: White=0.78/Black=0.64
1-0

226 **C11**
□ **Bologan,Viktor** **2630**
■ **Sorin,Maxime** **2318**
FRA-chT Gp-A (2.3) 01.02.2003
[Gofshtein,Leonid D]

1.e4 Gofshtein,L Gofshtein,L **1...e6** **2.d4** **d5** **3.Nc3** **Nf6** **4.e5** **Nfd7** **5.Nce2** **c5** **6.c3** **Nc6** **7.f4** **Qb6** **8.Nf3** **Be7** **9.a3** Another popular line is 9.Nc6 bc 10.Bf4
9...0-0
[9...f6 10.b4 cxd4 11.Nexd4! Nxd4 12.cxd4]
10.Ng3 White strengthens pawn 'e4' and prepare for a pawn attack on the King's side.
[10.b4 cxb4 *(10...cxd4 11.Nexd4)* 11.axb4 a5 12.Ng3]
10...cxd4 **11.cxd4** **f6**
[11...f5 12.b4]
12.Bd3 Useful move-White transfers his King from the dangerous h6-c1 diagonal and prepares for the eventual Qa5. **12...fxe5** Black carries out a typical plan of attacking the King; the Rook will defend pawn 'b4' in the future. **13.dxe5** White forces Black's Rook to occupy an unconvenient location and brings his Bishop to 'e3' in advance preventing e6-e5.
[13.fxe5]
13...Nc5

[13...a5 14.Bc2 Nc5 *(14...Bc5!? 15.Bxh7+)* 15.Be3]
[13...Ndxe5]
14.Bc2 a5 15.Be3 White's Knight has a multitude of possibilities; it can move to d4,c1, or g3. Everything depends how the game ensues. **15...Qxb2**
[15...d4 16.Nxd4! Rd8 1-0 Blehm,P-Tyomkin,D/Paget Parish BER 2001/The Week in Chess 325 (40) 17.Nge2]
16.0-0 Qc3 Black sacrifices a pawn, trying to get counterplay in return as demonstrated by tournament experience
[16...Qb6 17.Rc1 Qa7 18.Bxh7+ Kxh7 19.Ng5+ Kg8 20.Qh5± Bxg5 21.Bxc5]
17.Bf2 Qc4 18.Kh1!?N Novelty, 18.Qe2 also very promising **18...g6** Black tries to prevent the exchange of white-squared bishops.
[△18...Qxf4 19.Bxc5 Bxc5 20.Bxh7+ Kxh7!? 21.Qc2+ Kg8 22.Qxc5 Qc4 23.Qe3]
19.Nd2 Qa6
[19...Qc3 20.Ne2± Qb2 21.Bxc5 Bxc5 22.Rb1 Qxa3 23.Rf3+-]
20.Bxc5! Timely disclosure of the f-file.
20...Bxc5 More stubborn is 20...Qa5
21.Bxg6 hxg6 22.Qc2 Kg7
[22...b6 23.Qxg6+ Kh8 24.Rf3!± Δ♗ b5, ♗c4 Qb7 25.Nge4 Qh7 The idea was to keep the knight on d7, and to play d6-d5 as soon as possible, but after the following move of white, black is really in troubles. 26.Rh3!± 1-0 Shahade,G-Tyomkin,D/Paget Parish 2001/CBM 81/[Tyomkin,D] (53) White moves the bishop to b3, preventing any kind of black's counterplay on the queenside. Qxh3 27.gxh3 dxe4 28.Nxe4]
23.Qxc5 Qa7 24.Qc1 White has captured another pawn and victory is now a matter of time. **24...Bd7**
[24...Nd4 25.Rb1 b5 26.Nf3]
25.Nf3 Rac8 26.f5 exf5 27.Qg5 Kh7 28.Nh4 Be8 29.Ngxf5 gxf5 30.Nxf5 b5 31.Rf4± pawn 'b4' is weak and White has clear plans of attacking pawn 'b4' with the help of Nd3, followed by e5 and Qf4. Black gives up due to the lack of solid options.
1-0

227 **C11**
□ **Sakaev,Konstantin** **2620**
■ **Bareev,Evgeny** **2675**
Presidents Cup (3.1) 13.05.1998
[Finkel,A]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3
[3.Nd2 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.c3 c5 6.f4 Nc6 7.Ndf3 Qb6 Sakaev,K (2620)-Bareev,E (2675) Elista (m/1) 72/(285) 1998]
3...Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 Qb6 8.Nf3 f6 9.a3 Be7
[9...a5!? 10.g3 Be7 *(10...cxd4 11.cxd4 Be7 12.Bh3 fxe5 13.fxe5 0-0! 14.Bxe6+ Kh8 15.Bxd5 Ndxe5!⩱* Kalinin,M-Boog,F/Hamburg-ch 1994/½-½ (48) Kalinin,M-Boog,F/Hamburg-ch 1994/½-½ (48) *)* 11.Bh3 Nf8?! 12.0-0 a4 13.exf6 gxf6 14.f5 cxd4 15.cxd4± Vasiukov,E-Kaminik,A/WchS 1993 (32)]
10.h4!? Preventing black's counterplay connected with g5.
[10.b4!? cxd4 *(10...cxb4?! 11.axb4 0-0 12.Ng3 fxe5 13.fxe5 Ncxe5?! 14.dxe5 Nxe5 15.Nd4±* Maslesa,B-Bulic,J/Portoroz op 1994 (37)*)* 11.cxd4 0-0 *(11...a5?! 12.b5! Qxb5 13.Nc3 Qb6 14.Rb1 Qd8 15.Bd3 f5 16.h3*

h5 17.Rg1!→ Lanka,Z-Glek,I/Zillertal op 1993 (35)) 12.Ng3 *(12.Qd3?! Qc7 13.Qc2 b5 14.exf6 Nxf6 15.Ng3 Qb6 16.Qd3 a5∓* Sax,G-Luther,T/BL9293 1993 (29)) 12...g5!? 13.b5?! Nxd4! 14.Nxd4 gxf4 15.Nh5 fxe5 16.Nb3 Nf6 17.Nxf6+ Bxf6∓ Zontakh,A-Radosevic,N/Belgrade Beopromet 1993 (50)]

[10.f5!? Ü 58/316 cxd4 11.fxe6 Ndxe5 12.Nfxd4 Bc5 13.Nf4 Nxd4 14.cxd4 Bxd4 15.Qa4+ Nc6 16.Bd3↑ Morozevich,A-Gleizerov,E/Alushta 1993 (40)]

[10.Ng3 0-0 11.Bd3 fxe5 12.fxe5 cxd4 13.cxd4 Rxf3!? 14.gxf3 Qxd4 15.f4 Bc5⩱ Flechsig,E-Schottlaender,A/DSB-01.Kongress 1879/½-½ (49) Flechsig,E-Schottlaender,A/DSB-01.Kongress 1879/½-½ (49)]

[10.g3?! cxd4 11.cxd4 0-0 12.Bg2 a5!? 13.Nc3 fxe5 14.fxe5 Rxf3 15.Bxf3 Nxd4∓ 0-1 Schmidt,M-Florath,P/NRW-II 1994 (40)]

10...0-0 11.Rh3 a5

[11...fxe5 12.fxe5 Na5 13.b4 *(13.dxc5? Bxc5 14.b4 Bf2+)* 13...cxb4 14.axb4 Nc4 15.Nf4↑]

[11...Na5!?]

12.b3! Good profilactic move aimed againt black's counterplay on the queenside with a4, ♘c6-a5-b3. Good profilactic move aimed againt black's counterplay on the queenside with a4, ♘c6-a5-b3. **12...Qd8**

[12...a4 13.b4 cxd4 14.cxd4 Qd8 15.Ng3 Nb6 16.Bd3↑]

13.Ng3 h6

[13...f5? 14.Ng5 Nb6 15.Qh5 h6 16.Qg6! hxg5 17.hxg5 Qc7 18.Qh5!+-]

14.Be3 f5 15.Bd3 cxd4 16.cxd4 Nb6 17.Nh5!?→ Starting to disturb the black king. **17...Qe8!?**

[17...a4 18.Rg3 Bxh4? *(18...Rf7!?)* 19.Nxh4 Qxh4 20.Bf2! Kh8 21.Rxg7 Qh1+ 22.Bf1 axb3 23.Rg3!+-]

18.Nh2 g6 19.Nf6+!?⩱

[Of course not 19.Ng3?! h5⇄ and white's initiative on the kingside is over.]

19...Bxf6 20.exf6 Nd7!

[20...Rxf6 21.g4 Rf8 22.h5↑]

21.h5 Nxf6

[21...gxh5!? 22.Rxh5 Qg6 23.g4 Nxf6 24.Rh4 b6 25.g5!→]

22.hxg6 Qxg6 23.g4!? As strange as it seems,but this move actually forces the exchange of queens;nevertheless white's initiative stays extremly strong. **23...Nxg4 24.Nxg4 Qxg4 25.Qxg4+ fxg4 26.Rxh6 Ne7 27.Kd2!?** Bringing the last piece to the action. **27...Rf7 28.Bf2?!**

[28.Rah1 Nf5 29.Rh8+ *(29.Rg6+ Rg7 30.Rxg7+ Kxg7 31.Rg1 Nh6=)* 29...Kg7 30.Bf2 b6 31.R1h7+ Kg6 32.Rh4 Kg7 33.R8h7+ Kg8=]

28...Rg7!?

[It was possible to play 28...Nf5 29.Bxf5 *(29.Rg6+ Rg7 30.Rxg7+ Kxg7 31.Rg1 Nh6=)* 29...exf5 30.Rah1 Rg7 31.Rh8+ Kf7 32.Rc1 g3 33.Bg1 Rg8 34.Rxg8 Kxg8 35.Rc3 Bd7 with a draw.]

29.Rah1 g3 30.Rh8+ Kf7 31.Be1 g2 32.Rg1 b6

[32...a4!?]

33.Bh4!? Bb7

[33...Ng6!? 34.Bxg6+ Rxg6 35.Bg5 Bb7 36.Rh7+ Rg7 37.Rxg7+ Kxg7 38.Rxg2 a4=]

34.Rxa8 Bxa8 35.Bg5 Nf5? Serious mistake causing black a lot of difficulties in the ending.After correct

[35...Nc6! 36.Ke3 e5 37.dxe5 Nxe5

38.Be2 d4+ *(38...Ke6 39.Kd4 Nc6+ 40.Kd3 Ne5+=)* 39.Kxd4 Nf3+ 40.Bxf3 Bxf3∓ black even has the symbolical advantage.]

36.Bxf5 exf5 37.Rxg2 Ke6

[37...b5?! 38.Re2 Rh7 39.Re7+ Kg6 40.Re6+ Kg7 41.Ra6±]

38.Rh2 Kd7 39.Rh6 Bc6 40.Rf6 Rh7 41.Rxf5 Rh2+ 42.Ke1 a4! Sacrificing another pawn,but managing to build the fortress.It was too dangerous to play

[42...Rh3 43.Rf7+ Kc8 *(43...Ke8? 44.Re7+ Kf8 45.Re6 Bb5 46.a4+-)* 44.f5 Rxb3 45.Bf4 Bd7 46.Rf8+ Kb7 47.f6±]

43.bxa4 Bxa4 44.Rxd5+ Kc6 45.Re5 Bb3 46.f5 Rh5! 47.f6 Rh7 48.Kf2 Rd7 49.Re3 Bf7 Now black pieces take ideal positions and white can't make any progress.During the remaining fifty moves white tries to do the impossible, but black doesn't have any problem to hold this ending. **50.Rc3+ Kd5 51.Ke3 Ra7 52.Bf4 Ke6 53.Be5 Kf5 54.Kd2 Ra4 55.Rf3+ Ke6 56.Rb3 Kf5 57.Rf3+ Ke6 58.Rc3 Kf5 59.Rh3 b5 60.Rh7 Ke6 61.Rh3 Kf5 62.Rf3+ Ke4 63.Rg3 Kf5 64.Kc2 b4 65.axb4 Rxb4 66.Rg7 Rb7 67.Kd3 Rb3+ 68.Kd2 Rb2+ 69.Ke3 Rb3+ 70.Kf2 Ke6 71.Rh7 Ra3 72.Rh8 Kf5 73.Rd8 Ra7 74.Kg3 Be6 75.Re8 Bf7 76.Rb8 Rd7 77.Rb1 Rd8 78.Rb7 Rf8 79.Kf2 Kg6 80.Ke3 Rh8 81.Rb1 Rh3+ 82.Kf4 Rh4+ 83.Kg3 Re4 84.Rg1 Kf5 85.Rh1 Re3+ 86.Kf2 Rxe5 87.dxe5 Kxe5 88.Ke3 Kxf6 89.Kf4 Kg7 90.Kg5 Bg8 91.Rb1 Bd5 92.Rb5 Bc4 93.Rb7+ Kh8 94.Kf6 Kg8 95.Rd7 Bb3 96.Rd2 Bc4 97.Rf2 Bd5 98.Rc2 Be4 99.Rc5 Bd3 100.Ra5 Bc2 101.Ra8+ Kh7 102.Rh8+ ½-½**

228 **C11**
□ **Baramidze,David** **2619**
■ **Ruck,Robert** **2572**
121/161 Ruzomberok 2014
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 Be7 8.Nf3 0-0 9.a3 a5 10.g3** -0.52/20

[10.Ng3= 0.27/22]

10...cxd4 -0.09/24

[10...a4∓ -0.52/20]

11.cxd4 The position is equal. **11...f6 12.Bh3 fxe5! 13.dxe5**

[13.Bxe6+ Kh8 14.dxe5 Ndxe5∓]

13...Qb6 14.Bxe6+N

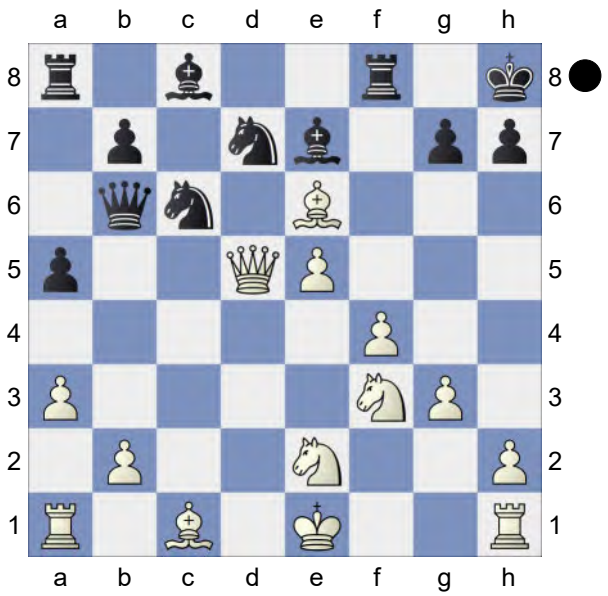
[14.Nc3 Ndxe5 15.fxe5 Nxe5 16.Bg2 Bd7 17.Rf1 Nc4 18.Rb1 Bf6 19.Qd3 Rac8 20.Ng5 Bxg5 21.Bxg5 Rxf1+ 22.Bxf1 Rf8 23.Qe2 Rf5 24.Bf4 g5 25.Nxd5 exd5 26.Bb8 Rf8 Black'S Centre Busting-Nxe5 Sacrifice 2008]

14...Kh8 And now ...Ndxe5! would win.

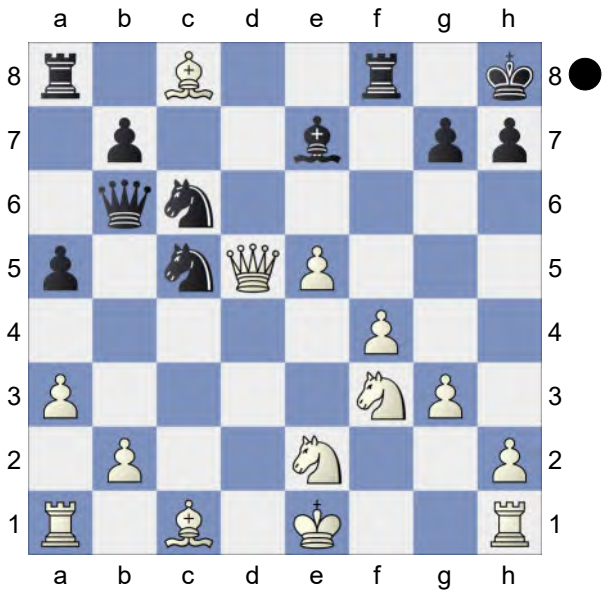
15.Qxd5 -3.29/23

[15.Bxd5∓ -0.49/19 Nc5 16.Bxc6 bxc6 17.Be3]

(Diagram)

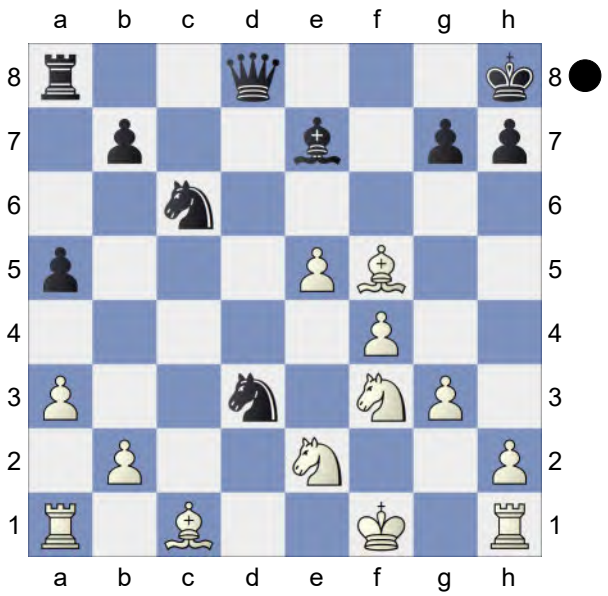


Now White is beyond hope. **15...Nc5!-+**
[15...Ndxe5 16.Nxe5 Nxe5 17.Bxc8 Raxc8 18.Qxe5=]
16.Bxc8

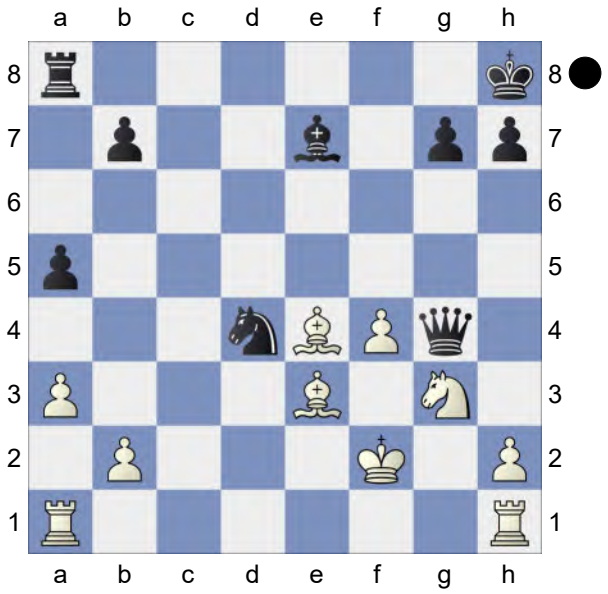


Rd8 Prevents Bd7 **17.Qxd8+**
[Don't blunder 17.Bd7? Rxd7-+]
17...Qxd8
[Much less strong is 17...Bxd8 18.Bf5-+]
18.Bf5 Nd3+ 19.Kf1 -4.17/22
[⌓19.Bxd3 -2.79/22 Qxd3 20.Rf1]

(Diagram)



19...Ndxe5! 20.Kg2
[20.fxe5 Qd1+]
20...Nxf3 21.Kxf3 Qd5+ 22.Be4 Qh5+ Skewer **23.g4 Qh3+ 24.Ng3 Nd4+ 25.Kf2 Qxg4** ...Bh4 would now be deadly. **26.Be3**



Bh4! 27.Rae1 Dodges Qe2+
[27.Bxd4 Qxf4+]
27...Nf5 28.Bxf5 Qxf5 29.Re2 Black is clearly winning. **29...Qh3 30.Rg1 Qxh2+ 31.Kf3 Qh3 32.Bf2 h5** Hoping for ...Qg4+. **33.Re5 Qg4+ 34.Kg2 Bxg3 35.Bxg3** -9.06/21

[⌓35.Rg5 -5.13/19 Bxf2+ *(35...Bxf4+ 36.Rxg4 hxg4 37.Kh1∓; 35...Qxf4? 36.Rxh5+ Kg8 37.Bxg3-+)* 36.Rxg4 Bxg1 37.Rg5]
35...h4 Pin **36.Rg5 Qe2+ 37.Bf2 Rc8** Strongly threatening ...Rc2. **38.Re1 Qxb2 39.Kg1 Rc1** Weighted Error Value: White=0.46/Black=0.21 (precise) . Loss on time!?
1-0

229 **C11**
□ **Ivanchuk,Vasyl** **2619**
■ **Bacrot,Etienne** **2640**
Djerba Festival Masters 2025 (4.4)
[Kitty Kat]

Slow 90min+30sec C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4** 3 **e6** 12:50 **2.d4** 1:10 **d5** 4 **3.Nc3** 17 **Nf6** 5 **4.e5** 10 **Nfd7** 5 **5.f4** 2 **c5** 7 **6.Nf3** 1 **Nc6** 7 **7.Be3** 3 **a6** 7 **8.a3** 1:01 **cxd4** 43 **9.Nxd4** 5 **Bc5** 5 **10.Qd2** 34 **Nxd4** 4:05 **11.Bxd4** 10 **Bxd4** 3 **12.Qxd4** 7 **Qb6** 2 **13.Qxb6** 15:37 **Nxb6** 6 **14.Bd3** 1:03
[14.0-0-0 Bd7 15.Bd3 h5 16.Ne2 Na4 17.Nd4 g6 18.g3 Ke7 19.b3 Nc5 20.Kd2 b5 21.Ke3 Rac8 22.h3 Rh7 23.Rh2 Rh6 24.Rdh1 Rch8 25.Nf3 Bc6 26.Kd4 Nd7 27.g4 Ba8 28.f5 gxf5 ½-½ Esipenko,A (2716)-Grischuk,A (2778) Moscow Smyslov Region Group Cup blitz 2021 (2) 29.gxf5 exf5 30.Bxf5 Nb8 31.Rg1 Nc6+ 32.Ke3 d4+ 33.Kf4 Rd8 34.Rg7 d3 35.Bxd3 Nd4 36.Nxd4 Rxd4+ 37.Ke3 Rd5 38.Rf2 Rxe5+ 39.Kd4 Rd5+ 40.Kc3 Rf6 41.Re2+ Re6 42.Rxe6+ Kxe6 43.Be4 Rd8 1-0 Esipenko,A (2679)-Theodorou,N (2591) Sharjah Masters 6th 2023 (5)]
14...Bd7 1:43 **15.Ne2** 1:02 **Ke7N** 8:41
[15...f6]
16.Nd4 1:06 **Nc4** 1:53 **17.Bxc4** 6:53 **dxc4** 11 Black is weak on the dark squares **18.Kf2** 9 **Rac8** 10:11 **19.c3** 36 **h5** 2:35 **20.Rad1** 1:43 **Rhg8** 8:06 **21.Rhe1** 51 **Rc5** 3:53 **22.Nf3** 3:35 **Bc6** 10:40 **23.Rd4** 30 **Bxf3** 12:13 **24.Kxf3** 10 **Rd8!** 5 **25.Rxd8** 2:04 **Kxd8** 4 **26.Rd1+** 34 Weighted Error Value: White=0.05 (flawless) /Black=0.06 (flawless)
½-½

230 **C11**
□ **Fier,Alexandr** **2606**
■ **Bluebaum,Matthias** **2663**
Titled Tuesday intern op 28th Feb Late b..
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.a3 cxd4 9.Nxd4 Bc5 10.Qd2 g5** 0.62/20 **11.Nf3** 0.21/20
[11.fxg5 Bxd4 12.Bxd4 Nxd4 13.Qxd4 Qxg5-+]
[11.f5± 0.62/20 Bxd4 *(11...Ndxe5 12.0-0-0±)* 12.Bxd4]
11...d4!= Deflection. The position is equal. **12.Bxd4 Nxd4 13.Nxd4 gxf4 14.Qxf4 Nxe5! 15.0-0-0**
[15.Ndb5 keeps more tension. f6 16.Ne4 0-0 17.Nxc5 axb5 18.Be2]
[15.Nb3 Ng6 16.Qf3 Ba7 17.Bxa6 0-0 18.Bd3 Qh4+ 19.Qg3 Qh6 20.h4 f5 21.Nd2 Bb8 22.Qf2 Ba7 23.Qg3 Bb8 24.Qf2 Ba7 25.Qg3 Bb8 ½-½ Osnos,V (2736)-Campos (2642) 2010]
15...Ng6 16.Qe4 Qg5+ 17.Kb1 Qe5N 5.42/21

[17...Qf4!± 0.32/17 18.Qxf4 Nxf4 19.g3 Ng6 20.b4 Be7 21.Na4 Rb8 22.Nb6 Bd8 23.Nxc8 Rxc8 24.Bg2 Rc7 25.c4 26. Steinitz 7.Be3 a6- Steinitz 7.Be3 a6 8.a3 cxd4 #]

18.g3? 0.09/20

[18.Nc6!+- 5.42/21 bxc6 19.Qxc6+ Kf8 20.Qxa8]

18...Qxe4 19.Nxe4 Be7 20.Bg2 0-0 21.Nb3 Ra7 22.Nd6 Excellent horsemanship. **22...b5 23.Nxc8 Rxc8 24.c3 a5 25.Nd4 b4 26.cxb4 axb4 27.Nc6 Rac7 28.Nxe7+ Nxe7 29.axb4** 0.04/22

[29.a4!± 0.76/24]

29...Rb8 30.Rd4 Nf5! 31.Rf4 Ne3 32.Bf3 -0.61/20

[32.Bf1!= -0.04/20]

32...Rc4 0.21/25 Black is more active.

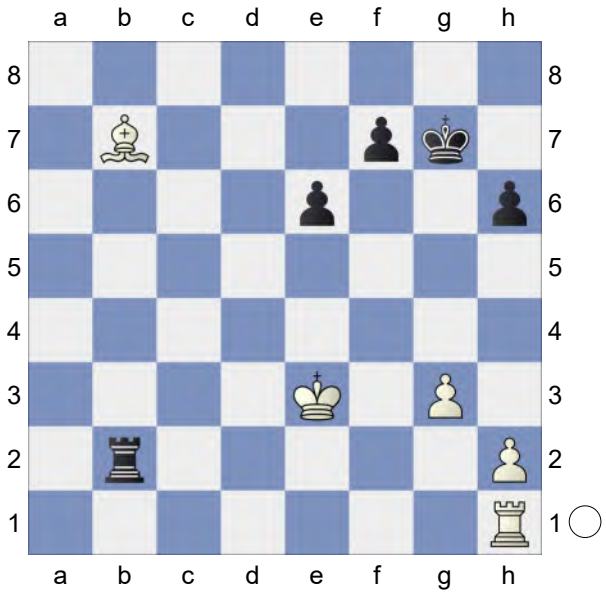
[32...Nc4∓ -0.61/20 33.b3 *(33.Rg4+ Kf8∓)* 33...Rxb4]

33.Rxc4 Nxc4 Endgame KRB-KRN. White is a pawn up. **34.Kc2** Dodges Nd2. Be2 would now be deadly. **34...Rxb4?** 2.60/23

[34...Ne5!= 0.13/20 and Black has nothing to worry. 35.Be2 Nc6]

35.Kc3+- Rxb2 36.Kxc4 KRB-KR **36...Rf2 37.Bb7 Kg7 38.Kd4 h6 39.Ke3 Rb2**

(Diagram)



40.h4? -0.64/27 **Rxb7∓** KR-KR. Black is a pawn up. **41.Ra1 Rb3+ 42.Kf2 Kg6 43.Ra7 h5 44.Ra5 f6 45.Ra8 e5 46.Rh8 Rb7 47.Kf3 Rh7 48.Rg8+ Kf5 49.Rf8** -0.73/27

[49.Kf2∓ -0.33/27 is superior.]

49...Ra7∓ 50.Rh8? -6.64/26

[50.Rg8∓ -0.65/26]

50...e4+-+ 51.Ke3 Ra3+ 52.Kf2 Ra2+? -0.19/22

[52...Kg4-+ -10.06/27 Strongly threatening ...Rf3+. 53.Re8 Rf3+ *(53...Rxg3? 54.Rg8+ Kxh4 55.Rxg3+-)* 54.Ke1 f5 *(54...Rxg3 55.Rxe4+ Kf5 56.Ra4=)* 55.Rg8+ Kh3]

53.Ke3= Ra3+ 54.Kf2 Kg4 55.Rg8+ Kh3 56.Rg6 Rf3+ 57.Ke2 f5

[57...Rxg3 58.Rxf6 Kg4 *(58...Kxh4 59.Rf4+ Rg4 60.Rf5=)* 59.Re6=]

58.Rg5 Kg2

[58...Rxg3 59.Rxf5 Kg4 *(59...Kxh4 60.Rf4+ Rg4 61.Rf5=)* 60.Re5=]

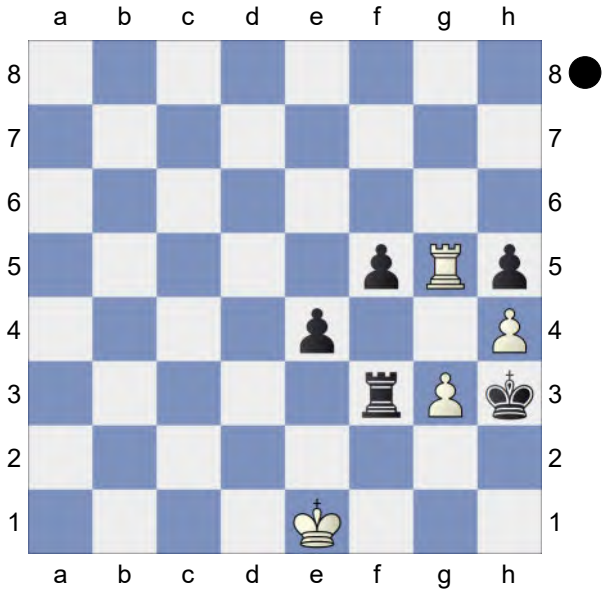
59.Ke1 Kh2

[59...Rxg3 60.Rxf5 Ra3 *(60...Re3+ 61.Kd2=)* 61.Ke2=]

60.Ke2 Kh3

[Not 60...Rxg3 61.Rxf5 Kh3

62.Re5=]
61.Ke1

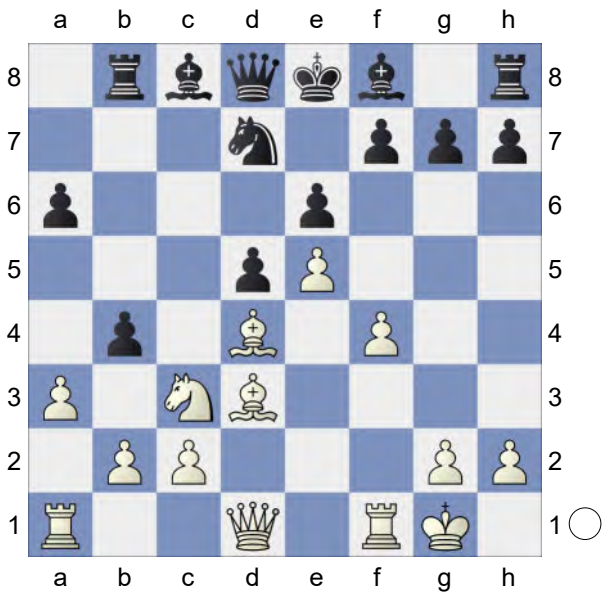


Rxg3? -0.01/20
[Better is 61...Kg2!-+ -6.40/29 62.Ke2 Rf2+ *(62...Rxg3 63.Rxf5 Kh3 64.Rxh5=)* 63.Ke3 Kf1]
62.Rxf5 Kxh4 63.Re5 e3 64.Ke2 Kg4 65.Re4+? -6.24/30
[65.Re8= -0.18/29]
65...Kh3-+ 66.Re5 h4 (→ ...Kg2) **67.Re4 Rg4 68.Rxe3+ Kg2 69.Rf3** Both players deserved the win here. Weighted Error Value: White=0.60/ Black=0.52 **69...Re4+** Deflection
0-1

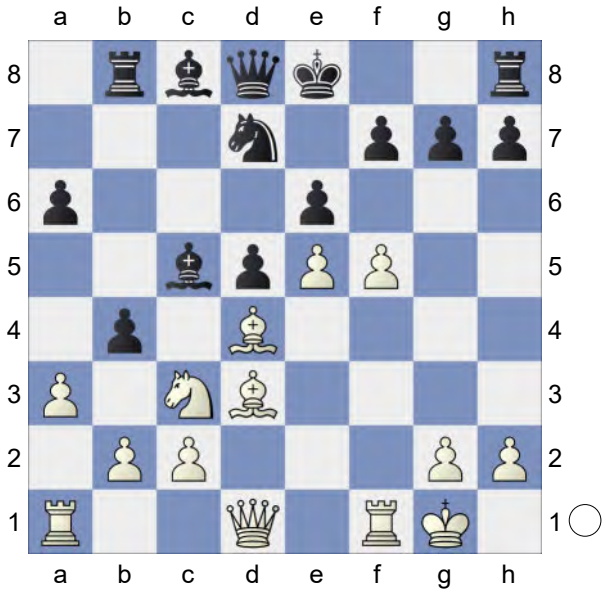
231 **C11**
□ **Bok,Benjamin** **2596**
■ **Aronian,Levon** **2729**
Julius Baer GenCup Pl/In rapid (9)
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.a3 b5 9.Bd3** is cutting edge theory. ist die Avantgarde der Theorie. **9...Rb8N**
[9...Be7 10.0-0 0-0 11.dxc5 Nxc5 12.Bxh7+ Kxh7 13.Ng5+ Bxg5 14.fxg5 Nd7 15.Qh5+ Kg8 16.Rf3 Ndxe5 *(16...Ncxe5 17.Rh3 f5 18.Bd4 Qe8 19.Qh7+ Kf7 20.Re1 Qe7 21.g6+ Ke8 22.Rxe5 Nxe5 23.Bxe5 Ra7 24.Qh4* #4 26. Steinitz 7.Be3 a6-Steinitz 7.Be3 a6 8.a3 b5*)* 17.Rh3 f5 18.gxf6 Rxf6 19.Bg5 Nd7 20.Qh7+ Kf7 21.Bxf6 Nxf6 22.Rf1 Nd4 23.Qh5+ Ke7 24.Qg6 ½-½ Basso,P (2508)-Luque Saiz,A (2286) Valencia Cuna op 4th 2023 (4)]
[9...Qb6 10.0-0 Bb7 *(10...cxd4 11.Bf2 Nc5 12.Nxd4 Nxd3 13.Qxd3 Nxd4 14.Qxd4 Qxd4 15.Bxd4 Bd7 16.Ne2 Rc8 17.c3 Be7 18.Kf2 0-0 19.Ke3 a5 20.Rfc1 Rfe8 21.Kd2 b4 22.cxb4 axb4 23.a4 b3 24.Rxc8 Rxc8 25.Bc3* ½-½ Krzywda,A (2173)-Badacsonyi,S (2289) Titled Tuesday intern op 14th Jan Early blitz 2025 (9) *)* 11.Kh1 h6 12.f5 0-0-0 13.Ne2 c4 14.fxe6 fxe6 15.Bg6 Ndxe5 16.Nxe5 Nxe5 17.Nf4 Nxg6 18.Nxg6 Rg8 19.Qg4 Bd6 20.Rf7 Rde8 21.Bf4 Qxd4 22.Bxd6 Qxg4 23.Rc7+ 1-0 Kopriva,M (2483)-Vereggen,L (2436) Budva 1963 (9)]
10.0-0 cxd4N
[Vorgänger: 10...b4 11.axb4 cxd4 12.Nxd4 0.31/20 *(⌓12.b5* 0.69/21 *)* 12...Nxd4± 13.Bxd4 Rxb4 14.Ne2 Bc5 15.c3 Bxd4+! 16.cxd4 and f5 would now be decisive Qb6 ½-½ Dusk,J (2222)-Van Dijk,E (2245) FICGS W-ch st1 gN 01 email 2022 (1)]
11.Nxd4 Nxd4 12.Bxd4 b4

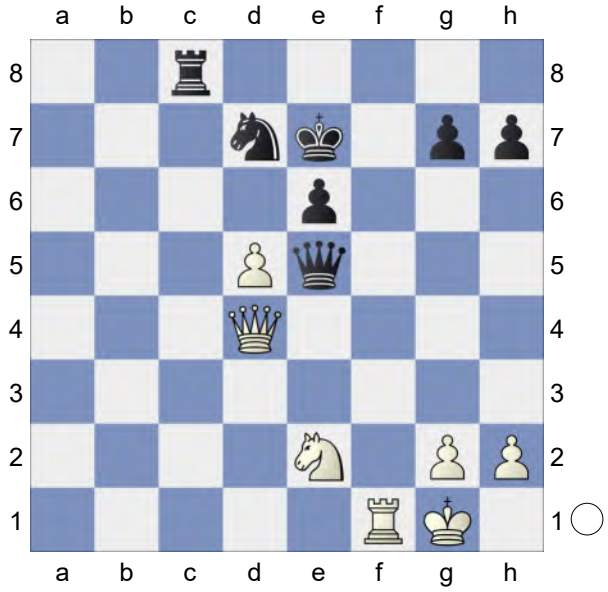
(Diagram)



13.f5! White is more active. **13...Bc5!**



14.Ne2 Qg5? 3.58/21
[14...Bxd4+ 15.Nxd4 exf5 16.Re1∓ *(16.Nxf5 0-0±; 16.Rxf5 bxa3 17.bxa3 g6=)*]
[14...exf5± 0.61/19 15.Bxf5 Bxd4+ 16.Qxd4 0-0]
15.fxe6+- fxe6 16.axb4 Rxb4 17.c3
[17.Bxa6 Bxd4+ 18.Nxd4 Qe3+ *(18...Qxe5? 19.c3+-)* 19.Kh1 Rxd4-+]
17...Rxb2 18.Bxa6 Ke7 3.47/23
[18...Bxd4+ 2.21/24 was necessary. 19.Qxd4 Ke7]
19.Bxc5+ Nxc5 20.Bxc8 Rxc8 21.Ra7+ Rb7 22.Rxb7+ Nxb7 23.Qd4 Wards off Qe3+ **23...Nc5 24.c4** 1.53/22
[24.h4+- 3.57/25 and the rest is easy. Qg6 25.c4]
24...Nd7± 25.cxd5 Qxe5



26.dxe6 0.23/21
[26.d6+!+- 2.14/22 Ke8 27.Qd3]
26...Qxd4+= 27.Nxd4+- Endgame KRN-KRN. White is a pawn up. **27...Nf6 28.Nf5+ Kxe6 29.Nxg7+ Ke7 30.Nf5+ Ke6 31.Ng7+ Ke7 32.Nf5+ Ke6** White really could win this. Weighted Error Value: White=0.32/Black=0.33
33.Ng7+
½-½

232 **C11**
□ **Baramidze,David** **2594**
■ **Naiditsch,Arkadij** **2706**
Grenke Chess Classic 3rd (4) 06.02.15
[Prathamesh,Sunil Mokal]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nce2 Nc6!? <xml ✕:en>After his victory against the

World Champion in the previous round, Naiditsch naturally wants to fight for the full point even with the black pieces. Considering that he is hundred points ahead of his opponent in rating, it is quite a legitimate ambition. Naiditsch "I was surprised by 1.c4, I was expecting 1. d4. In this position 6...f5 may objectively not be the best move but today I wanted to play something different."</:en ✕/xml> After his victory against the World Champion in the previous round, Naiditsch naturally wants to fight for the full point even with the black pieces. Considering that he is hundred points ahead of his opponent in rating, it is quite a legitimate ambition. Naiditsch "I was surprised by 1.c4, I was expecting 1. d4. In this position 6...f5 may objectively not be the best move but today I wanted to play something different." **7.c3 Be7**

[<xml✕:en>It is dangerous to take the bait, since after</:en ✕/xml> It is dangerous to take the bait, since after 7...Qb6?!]

8.Be3 0-0 <xml✕:en>Black is trying to let White commit to playing d3 before he brings his knight out.</:en ✕/xml> Black is trying to let White commit to playing d3 before he brings his knight out.

[8...Qb6?! 9.Qd2± c4 10.Nf3 Qa6 11.g3 <xml✕:en>Black is at least not worse.</:en ✕/xml> Black is at least not worse. b5 12.Bh3 g6 13.0-0 Nb6 14.g4∞ Bd7 15.f5±]

9.Nf3 <xml✕:en>White, on his part continues the waiting game with another useful move. Naiditsch was all praise for this subtle move.</:en ✕/xml> White, on his part continues the waiting game with another useful move. Naiditsch was all praise for this subtle move. **9...f6** <xml ✕:en>This structure is not seen much with <sym>B</sym> on d7. Usually Black gets ...e5 in quite early and so does not really need ...<sym>B</sym>d7.</:en ✕/xml> This structure is not seen much with ♗ on d7. Usually Black gets ...e5 in quite early and so does not really need ...♗d7. **10.Qc1**

[10.Ng3? cxd4!-+ <xml✕:en>Black would not want to himself open the position with</:en ✕/xml> Black would not want to himself open the position with 11.cxd4 Qb6 12.Qc1 Bb4+ 13.Kf2 fxe5 14.fxe5 Nxd4⩱]

10...a5

[10...Qb6? 11.g3 *(11.exf6 Nxf6 12.dxc5 Bxc5= '=' 13.Bxc5 Qxc5 14.Ned4 Ne4 15.Be2 g5 16.fxg5 Nxd4↑ 17.cxd4?! Qb4+↑ 18.Nd2?! Qxd4∓)* 11...fxe5 12.dxe5 [%draw arrow,g6,e6,green] [%draw full,d7] *(12.Nxe5 cxd4 13.Nxd7 Bxd7+-* [%draw arrow,h5,h4,green] [%draw arrow,h5,f5,green] [%draw arrow,f5,d7,green] [%draw arrow,h4,e7,green] *14.Nxd4!? Bc5 15.Qd2 Nxd4 16.Bxd4 Bxd4 17.cxd4 Rac8)* 12...Qc7 13.h4 Nb6 14.Bh3+- Nc4? 15.Bf2 Nd8 16.Qc2]

11.g3!? <xml✕:en>An exciting and principled continuation. Since Black is not well developed, White wants to rip open the position. It is not really a pawn sacrifice because White will recover the material immediately.</:en ✕/xml> An exciting and principled continuation. Since Black is not well developed, White wants to rip open the position. It is not really a pawn sacrifice because White will recover the material immediately.

11...a4 12.Bh3 f5 13.0-0 cxd4

[13...b6 14.g4 Ba6 15.gxf5 <xml ✕:en>and in spite of being a whole rook down, White has enough

compensation to make Black think about a draw.</:en ✕/xml> and in spite of being a whole rook down, White has enough compensation to make Black think about a draw. exf5 16.Rf2 Qe8 17.Ng3 g6 18.Bg2= '=']

14.Nfxd4 Nc5 15.c4 dxc4 16.Qxc4

[16.Nxc6 bxc6 17.Nd4 Qd5 18.Bg2 Ne4∓ 19.Rd1 Rd8 20.Bf3 <xml ✕:en>is similar</:en ✕/xml> is similar]

16...Na5 17.Qc2 b6 18.Rfd1 <xml✕:en>A brave and practical attempt. Objectively the sacrifice may not be correct but it is the best way of trying for something more. Without it, Black would soon be very comfortable in the static type of position.</:en ✕/xml> A brave and practical attempt. Objectively the sacrifice may not be correct but it is the best way of trying for something more. Without it, Black would soon be very comfortable in the static type of position.

18...Qe8 19.Bg2 Bb7

[19...Ra7]

20.Bxb7 Naxb7 21.b4 axb3 22.axb3 Rxa1

[22...Qf7 23.b4⩲ Ne4 24.Nc6]

23.Rxa1?? <xml✕:en>After finding some very tough and brave continuations, White falters at the crucial moment and completely loses his way.</:en ✕/xml> After finding some very tough and brave continuations, White falters at the crucial moment and completely loses his way. **23...Nd8 24.b4 Ne4** <xml✕:en>Probably Baramidze forgot to consider this obvious retreat. White now has nothing in return for the huge material disadvantage.</:en ✕/xml> Probably Baramidze forgot to consider this obvious retreat. White now has nothing in return for the huge material disadvantage. **25.Qb3 Qd7 26.Ra6 Kh8 27.Rxb6 Qa7** <xml✕:en>The best way to continue the fight was</:en ✕/xml> The best way to continue the fight was **28.Nxe6 Nxe6 29.Rxe6 Qa1+ 30.Nc1**

[30.Kg2 Qe1 31.Nd4∞ Bxb4 32.Rb6 Bc5 33.Rb8 g6 34.Rxf8+ Bxf8 35.Qf7]

30...Bd8 31.Rc6 Be7∞ <xml✕:en>Black's shattered pawn structure and a comparatively vulnerable king give White enough compensation for the exchange.</:en ✕/xml> Black's shattered pawn structure and a comparatively vulnerable king give White enough compensation for the exchange. **32.Rc7 Bd8 33.Ra7∞**

0-1

233 **C11**

□ **Short,Nigel D** **2592**

■ **Roberson,Peter T** **2433**

World Rapid Team 2023 (4.13) 26.08.23

[John Watson]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3**

[Notice that 3.Nd2 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.Ndf3 Be7 8.Ne2 transposes to the game, and I've therefore discussed it in the Tarrasch section.]

3...Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 A popular way to get a Tarrasch-style position versus 3 Nc3 Nf6. **5...c5 6.c3 Nc6**

[6...cxd4 7.cxd4 f6 is one reason that 5 Nce2 doesn't guarantee transposition to an f4 main line. You will see many games in the Archives with this order. Then 8.f4 *(8.Nf4* and*; 8.exf6* are common alternatives*)* can lead to 8...fxe5 9.fxe5 *(9.dxe5*

Nc6 10.Nf3 Bb4+ 11.Bd2 Qb6) 9...Qh4+ *(9...Bb4+* is analysed in my notes to the Archives game Zhou-Ulybin *)* 10.Ng3 *(One game from this* July went *10.g3?? Qe4 11.Kf2 Nxe5! 12.Nf4 Nbc6-+* Ermitsch,M (2232) -Quesada Perez,L (2553) Biel 2023 *)* 10...Bb4+ 11.Kf2 0-0+ 12.Nf3 Nc6 13.Be3 *(13.Kg1 Rxf3! 14.gxf3 Qxd4+ 15.Qxd4 Nxd4 16.f4 b6=)* 13...Ba5! (with the idea ...Bb6), e.g., 14.Kg1 *(14.Bb5?!* is Zhou-Ulybin in the Archives*)* 14...Rxf3 15.gxf3 Bb6 16.f4 g5

A) 17.Qh5 Qxh5 18.Nxh5 gxf4 19.Bxf4 *(19.Nxf4 Ndxe5∞)* 19...Ndxe5 20.Kg2 Ng6∞;

B) 17.fxg5 Ndxe5 18.Qh5 *(18.Kg2? Nxd4! 19.Bxd4 Bxd4 20.Qh5 Ng6∓)* 18...Qxh5 19.Nxh5 Ng4 20.Nf6+ Nxf6 21.gxf6 e5= Matusek,J (2277)-Rimsans,A (2308) ICCF 2020]

7.f4 Be7 8.Nf3 A position that most often arises via the 3 Nd2 order given above. **8...0-0 9.h4** -0.15/20 This scores well. Traditionally,

[9.g3 and]

[9.a3 have been played more often]

[9.Be3 0.25/20 should be considered. f6 10.g3 Qb6 11.Qd2 fxe5 12.dxe5 Rd8 13.Bh3 d4 14.Bf2 d3 15.Nc1 Nf8 16.b3 Qa6 17.a4 b5 18.0-0 Bb7 19.Ra2 c4 20.axb5 Qxb5 21.bxc4 Qxc4]

9...f6= 10.Rh3?!

[a) 10.a3 was played by Duda in a couple of high-level online encounters:

A) 10...cxd4 11.cxd4 b5!? *(11...fxe5* 0.79/20 11...b5 0.15 *12.fxe5 Rxf3 13.gxf3 Bxh4+ 14.Kd2 Bf2! 15.Kc3 Qb6 16.f4±)*;

B) 10...a5 11.Ng3 Qb6!∓ 12.Bd3 cxd4

B1) 13.Ng5 h6! 14.Nxe6 Ndxe5 15.Nxf8 Nxd3+ 16.Qxd3 Bxf8 17.Bd2? -1.93/19 *(17.Rb1!=* -0.30/20 *)* 17...Bg4-+ Duda,J (2750)-Carlsen,M (2864) chess24. com 2022;

B2) 13.cxd4∓ -0.65/26 Nxd4 14.Nxd4 fxe5 15.Nde2;

B3) 13.Bxh7+? -2.27/19 13...Kxh7-+ 14.Ng5+ -3.79/25 *(⌓14.cxd4* -2.32/19 *Rh8 15.a4)* 14...Kg8!-+ 15.Qh5 fxg5 16.hxg5 White threatens g6 and mate. Ndxe5 17.fxe5 g6 would kill now. Nxe5 18.g6 Nxg6?? 0.00/23 *(18...Nd3+! 19.Kd2 Rf2+ 20.Ne2 Bg5+ 21.Qxg5 dxc3+ 22.bxc3 Nf4!-+; 18...Nd3+!-+* -4.52/26 *19.Kd2 Rf2+* Skewer *20.Ne2 Bg5+ 21.Kxd3 Qb5+* Deflection *22.Kc2 Qxe2+ 23.Qxe2 Rxe2+ 24.Kd3 Rxg2 25.Bxg5 Rxg5 26.cxd4 Rxg6)* 19.Qxg6? -1.90/24 *(19.Qh7+! Kf7 20.Rf1+ Ke8 21.Qxg6+ Kd8! 22.Rxf8+ Bxf8 23.Bg5+ Kc7 24.Qe8! Qxb2 25.Rc1* ends in equality; *19.Qh7+!=* 0.00/23 and White has nothing to worry. *Kf7 20.Rf1+ Ke8 21.Qxg6+ Kd8 22.Rxf8+ Bxf8 23.Bg5+ Kc7 24.Qf7+ Bd7 25.cxd4)* 19...dxc3-+ 20.Qh7+ Kf7 21.bxc3 -2.43/18 *(21.Qh5+∓* -1.56/18 was worth a try. *g6 22.Rf1+ Ke8 23.Qxg6+ Kd7 24.bxc3)* 21...Ke8-+ Duda,J (2731)-Grischuk,A (2745) Chess.com 2022]

[b) 10.Be3 has scored best it is about equal after b5 11.Nc1 , e.g., b4

0.00/24 *(11...Qb6!∓* -0.36/22 *)* 12.Bd3!= bxc3 13.Bxh7+ Kxh7 14.Ng5+! fxg5 15.hxg5+ Kg8 16.Qh5! Rf5! 17.g4! Nf8! 18.gxf5 Black must now prevent g6. cxb2 19.Qh8+ Kf7 20.Qh5+ Kg8 21.Qh8+=]

10...b5! 11.a3N Black is slightly better.
[11.h5 b4 12.Rg3 fxe5 13.fxe5 bxc3 14.bxc3 cxd4 15.cxd4 Ba6 #3 Classical Nce2-6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 with 9. h4]

11...a5 12.Ng3 -0.95/23
[12.h5∓ -0.46/20]

12...cxd4 13.cxd4 b4
[13...Qb6!∓ 14.Bd3?! -1.24/19 *(⌓14.Nh5* -0.74/21 *)* 14...fxe5!∓ 15.fxe5 Ncxe5 16.dxe5 Nxe5-+]

14.Bd3 h6 0.13/17 Wards off Ng5
[14...Ba6∓ -0.25/19 14...Qb6 -0.74]
[14...bxa3 15.bxa3 Hoping for Qc2. fxe5 16.fxe5 Nxd4! 17.Nxd4 Nxe5∓]
[14...bxa3∓ -0.55/19 15.bxa3 Ba6]

15.Be3 -0.57/20
[15.Nh5! improves and can lead to crazy lines, e.g., fxe5 *(15...f5)* 16.Nxg7!? *(16.Nxe5!? Bxh4+ 17.g3 Ndxe5 18.dxe5=)* 16...e4 ...Nc5 would now be deadly. 17.Nxe6 Qc2! is the strong threat. Qe8 18.f5! Rxf5 *(18...Bd6* -0.37/21 18...Rxf5 0. 00 *19.Bxh6* And now Ne5 would win. *exd3∞)* 19.Rg3+! Threatens to win with Ne5! Kh7! 20.Ng7! Qf7 21.Nxf5 Qxf5 22.Bb5 Bd6 23.Ng5+! Kh8 24.Rh3 Kg7!? 25.Bxc6 Ba6 26.Ne6+! Kh8 27.Bf4 Bxf4 28.Nxf4 Qxf4 29.Bxa8 Qf1+ 30.Kd2 Qxg2+ 31.Kc1 Qxh3 32.axb4! Qe3+ 33.Qd2! Qg1+ 34.Kc2 Bd3+ 35.Kb3 Bc4+ 36.Kc2=]
[15.Nh5= 0.13/17]

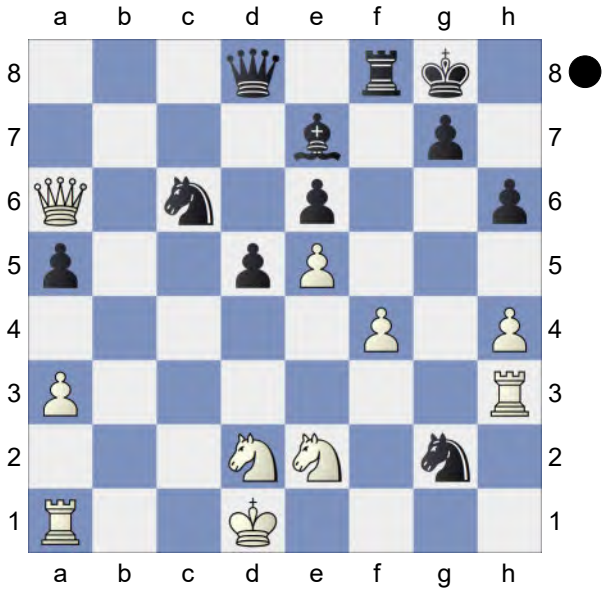
15...bxa3∓ 16.bxa3 Ba6 17.Ne2?
[17.Rc1]

17...Nb6 -0.14/24
[17...a4!]
[17...a4∓ -0.96/21]

18.Bxa6
[18.exf6 Bxf6 19.Ng5!]

18...Rxa6 19.Qd3 Nc4 20.Nd2 fxe5 21.dxe5
[21.fxe5?? -1.90/20 21.dxe5 -0.46 Bxh4+]

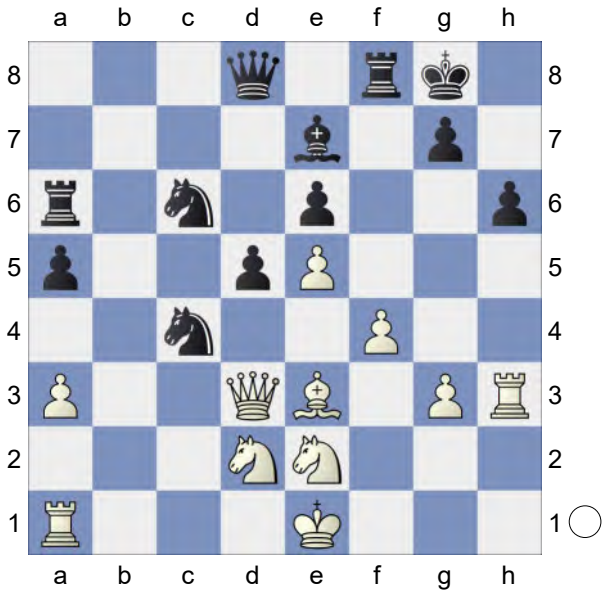
21...Bxh4+ 0.26/18
[21...Nxe3! 22.Qxa6 Nxg2+ 23.Kd1



Qe8!∓]
[21...Nxe3∓ -0.33/23 22.Qxa6 Nxg2+ 23.Kd1 Qe8 *(23...Nxf4? 24.Nxf4 Nd4 25.Ne2+-)*]

22.g3= Be7?? 2.43/19
[22...Bg5± 0.35/20 23.Nxc4 dxc4 24.Qxc4 Qa8]

(Diagram)



23.Rxh6!+- Rf5 3.40/21
[23...gxh6? too greedy. 24.Qg6+ Kh8 25.Qxh6+ Kg8 26.Qg6+ Kh8 27.Kf2 *(27.Qh6+ Kg8=)* 27...Nxe3 *(27...Nxa3? 28.Rh1++-; 27...N6xe5? 28.Bd4+-* Pin *)* 28.Rh1++-]
[23...N6xe5 2.11/21 is a better defense. 24.Qh7+ Kf7]
24.Rxe6 Nxe3 25.Qxa6 Nc2+ 26.Kf1 Nxa1 27.Rxc6 Bf8 7.08/21
[⌓27...Rf8 4.52/18 28.Rc1 Qd7]
28.Rc1 Qe8 29.Rxa1
[29.Qd3+-]
29...Qxe5 30.Rd1
[30.Rc1!+-]
30...Qe3 31.Qc8? -0.03/5
[31.Qa8]
[31.Ng1+-]
[Weaker is 31.Qxa5 Bc5 32.Qd8+ Kf7=]
[31.Ng1+- 3.04/24]
31...Rh5= (→ ...Rh2!). The position is equal. **32.Qc3! Rh1+** Deflection **33.Kg2 Qxe2+ 34.Kxh1 Qxd1+** Endgame. KQB-KQN **35.Kg2 Qe2+ 36.Kh3 Qh5+ 37.Kg2 Qe2+ 38.Kh3 Qe6+ 39.Kg2 Bxa3** Strongly threatening ...Bb4. **40.Qxa5 Qe2+ 41.Kh3 Qh5+ 42.Kg2 Qe2+ 43.Kh3 Qh5+ 44.Kg2 Qe2+** Blacks defense is rewarded with a draw. Weighted Error Value: White=0.47/ Black=0.36
½-½

234 **C11**
□ **Bauer,Christian** **2582**
■ **Bareev,Evgeny** **2734**
Enghien les Bains (7) 20.06.2003
[Finkel,Alexander, MH]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 RR: 'Inf 85/(266)' **1.e4** Finkel,A Finkel,A Finkel,A Finkel,A: 'IM Minero Pineda,Sergio E' **1...e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nce2**
[6.Nf3 (Finkel,A) IM Minero Pineda, Sergio E Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Bc5 9.Qd2 0-0 10.0-0-0 a6 11.Qf2]
6...Nc6 7.c3 Qb6
[7...Be7 (Finkel,A) IM Minero Pineda, Sergio E 8.Nf3 0-0 9.a3 a5 10.h4 f6 11.Neg1 cxd4 12.cxd4 Qb6 13.Bd3 fxe5 14.fxe5 Ndxe5 15.dxe5 Nxe5 16.Bc2 Bd7 17.Qe2 Rac8 18.Bxh7+ Kxh7 19.Qxe5 Bd6 20.Be3 Qb3 21.Nd2 Rf1+ 22.Kxf1 Qd3+ 23.Kf2 Bxe5 24.Ngf3 Bxb2 25.Rab1 Rc2 26.Rhd1 e5 27.g3 Bg4]
8.Nf3 f6 9.a3 Be7
[9...a5!? 10.g3
A) 10...cxd4 11.cxd4 Be7 12.Bh3 fxe5 1.06/21 *(12...a4± 0.49/22)* 13.fxe5± 0-0! 14.Bxe6+ 0.11/18 *(14.Bf4± 1.18/21)* 14...Kh8= 15.Bxd5 Ndxe5!≅ Kalinin,M-Boog,F/ Hamburg-ch 1994/½-½ (48);
B) 10...Be7 11.Bh3 Nf8?! 1.32/21 *(11...a4= 0.29/20)* 12.0-0 0.91/20 *(⌓12.exf6 1.32/21 Bxf6 13.0-0)*

12...a4 1.44/20 *(⌓12...f5 0.91/20)* 13.exf6!± gxf6 1.95/17 *(13...Bxf6± 1.34/21 14.dxc5 Qxc5+ 15.Ned4 Ng6)* 14.f5+- cxd4 15.cxd4± Vasiukov,E-Kaminik,A/WchS 1993 (32)]

10.h4 Preventing black's counterplay connected with g5

[10.b4!?

A) 10...cxb4?! 0.80/21 10...cxd4 0.28 11.axb4 0-0 12.Ng3 fxe5 1.12/23 *(⌓12...Qc7 0.74/20)* 13.fxe5± Ncxe5?! 14.dxe5 Nxe5 15.Nd4± 0.00/19 Maslesa,B-Bulic,J/Portoroz op 1994 (37) *(15.Be2± 1.17/18)*;

B) 10...cxd4 11.cxd4

B1) 11...a5?! 12.b5! Qxb5 13.Nc3 Qb6 14.Rb1 Qd8! 15.Bd3! f5 16.h3 h5 1.39/19 *(⌓16...0-0 0.74/21)* 17.Rg1!→ Lanka,Z-Glek,I/Zillertal op 1993 (35);

B2) 11...0-0

B2a) 12.Qd3?! Qc7 13.Qc2 -0.31/20 *(13.Bd2= 0.13/20* deserves consideration.*)* 13...b5∓ 14.exf6 -0.99/21 *(14.Ng3∓ -0.39/22)* 14...Nxf6∓ 15.Ng3 Qb6 16.Qd3 a5∓ Sax,G-Luther,T/BL9293 1993 (29);

B2b) 12.h4= 0.17/23;

B2c) 12.Ng3 -0.60/20 12...g5!? 1.06/21 *(12...fxe5!∓ -0.60/20 13.dxe5 g5 14.Nxg5 Bxg5)* 13.b5?!± Nxd4! 14.Nxd4 0.41/21 *(14.Qxd4± 1.16/22 Bc5 15.Qd2)* 14...gxf4 0.83/20 *(14...fxe5± 0.41/21 15.fxe5 Nxe5)* 15.Nh5!± fxe5 16.Nb3? -1.87/19 *(16.Qg4+± 0.72/19* is forced if you want to stay better. *Kf7 17.Nf3)* 16...Nf6!-+ 17.Nxf6+ -2.03/19 *(⌓17.Ra2 -1.64/18)* 17...Bxf6∓ Zontakh,A-Radosevic,N/Belgrade Beopromet 1993 (50)]

[10.f5!? -1.11/22 10.b4 0.15 cxd4 -0.73/22 *(⌓10...fxe5 -1.11/22 11.fxe6 cxd4 12.exd7+ Bxd7)* 11.fxe6 -1.27/20 *(⌓11.Nfxd4 -0.73/22 Nc5 12.exf6 Bxf6 13.Nxc6 bxc6 14.Be3)* 11...Ndxe5∓ 12.Nfxd4 Bc5 -0.87/19 *(⌓12...0-0 -1.33/21 13.Nf4 Nxd4 14.cxd4 Nc6)* 13.Nf4 -1.73/22 *(13.b4∓ -0.87/19 Bxd4 14.Nxd4)* 13...Nxd4 -0.58/23 *(13...Bxd4-+ -1.73/22 14.cxd4 Qxd4)* 14.cxd4 -1.41/20 *(14.Nxd5∓ -0.58/23 Nef3+ 15.gxf3 Qxe6+ 16.Be3* Pin *Qxd5 17.Bxd4 Bxd4 18.Qxd4 Qxd4 19.cxd4)* 14...Bxd4∓ 15.Qa4+ Nc6 -1.00/20 *(⌓15...Kf8 -1.39/21 16.Be2 Bf2+ 17.Kf1 Bc5 18.Nxd5 Qxe6)* 16.Bd3↑ -2.01/19 Morozevich,A-Gleizerov,E/Alushta 1993 (40) *(16.Be2∓ -1.00/20)*]

[10.Ng3 0-0 11.Bd3

A) 11...cxd4!? 12.cxd4 Nxd4 *(12...fxe5 13.dxe5 Nc5 14.b4=)* 13.Nxd4 fxe5 14.fxe5 Nxe5∓;

B) 11...fxe5 12.fxe5 -0.71/23 *(12.dxe5= 0.13/24* keeps the balance. *c4 13.Bc2)* 12...cxd4∓ 13.cxd4 Rxf3!? 14.gxf3 Qxd4 15.f4 Bc5⩱ 1.22/22 Flechsig,E-Schottlaender,A/DSB-01.Kongress 1879/½-½ (49) *(15...Nc5∓ -0.45/19* keeps the upper hand. *16.Bb1 Qxd1+ 17.Kxd1 Nb3)*]

[10.g3?! cxd4 11.cxd4 0-0 12.Bg2 a5! 13.Nc3 -1.26/21 *(13.exf6= 0.20/22 Nxf6 14.0-0)* 13...fxe5∓

14.fxe5 Rxf3! 15.Bxf3 Nxd4∓ 0-1 Schmidt,M-Florath,P/NRW-II 1994 (40)]

10...0-0 11.b4

[11.Rh3

A) 11...fxe5 0.69/23 11...a5 -0.01 12.fxe5 Na5 1.54/23 *(⌓12...cxd4 0.79/23 13.cxd4 Rf7)*

A1) 13.dxc5? -1.29/19 13.b4 1.65 Bxc5? 0.25/18 *(13...Nxc5∓ -1.29/19 Hoping for ...Nab3. 14.Ned4 Nab3)* 14.b4? -2.69/20 *(14.Ned4= 0.25/18)* 14...Bf2+;

A2) 13.b4!± cxb4 2.31/21 *(13...Nc4± 1.53/18)* 14.axb4+- Nc4 15.Nf4↑;

B) 11...Na5!?;

C) 11...a5 12.b3! -0.52/23 *(12.h5= 0.05/21)*

C1) 12...Qc7 (Finkel,A) IM Minero Pineda,Sergio E 13.Neg1 a4 0.00/24 *(13...h6!∓ -0.60/23)* 14.b4= fxe5 15.fxe5 Ndxe5 16.Nxe5 -1.02/26 *(16.dxe5= 0.00/24 remains equal. Nxe5 17.Bg5)* 16...Nxe5 0.00/23 *(16...cxd4!∓ -1.02/26 17.Nxc6 Qxc6)* 17.dxe5= Qxe5+ 18.Qe2 -0.36/20 *(18.Ne2!= 0.00/23 was preferrable.)* 18...Bxh4+ 0.55/20 *(18...Qc7!∓ -0.36/20 19.Bg5 Bd6 20.bxc5 Qxc5)* 19.Kd1!;

C2) 12...Qc7∓ -0.52/23;

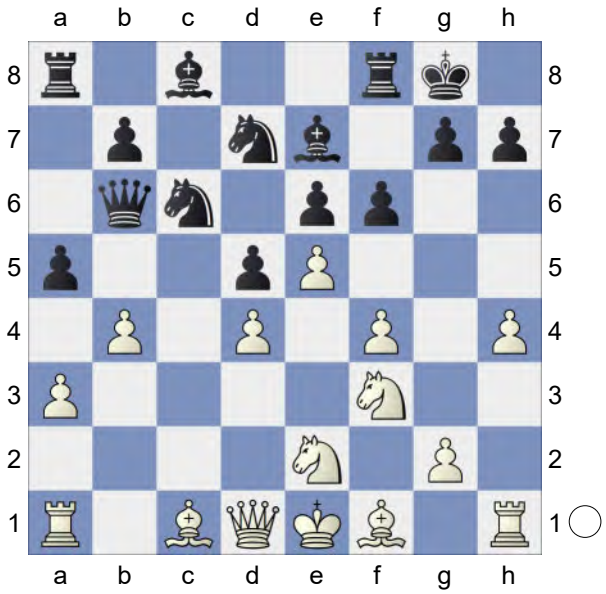
C3) 12...Qd8 0.20/22 13.Ng3 -0.26/19 *(⌓13.Neg1 0.20/22)*

C3a) 13...f5? 1.06/19 13...Qb6 -0.30 14.Ng5 Nb6? 3.19/24 *(14...Bxg5± 1.07/19 15.hxg5 Qe7)* 15.Qh5 h6 16.Qg6! hxg5? 6.73/22 *(16...Bxg5 1.92/23 17.hxg5 Ne7)* 17.hxg5+- Qc7 18.Qh5!+- 5.49/18 Wards off Bxg5 *(⌓18.Rh8+ #6/18 Kxh8 19.Qh5+ Kg8 20.g6 Qxe5+ 21.dxe5 Rf7 22.Qh7+ Kf8 23.Qh8#)*;

C3b) 13...Qb6= -0.26/19;

C3c) 13...h6 0.48/22 14.Be3 f5 15.Bd3 0.04/21 *(15.Kf2± 0.43/26)* 15...cxd4= 16.cxd4 Nb6 17.Nh5!?→ -0.29/22 Sakaev,K-Bareev,E/Elista 1998 *(⌓17.Kf2 0.22/23)*]

11...cxd4 12.cxd4 a5



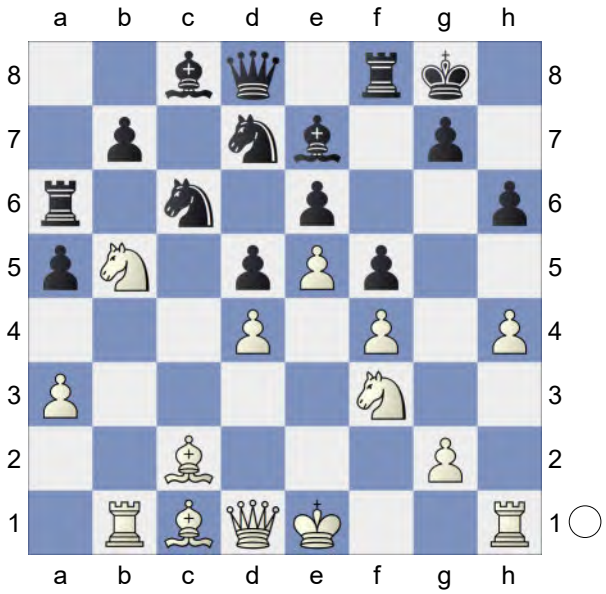
13.b5 It's interesting that Bauer not only played this position on the black side, but he bsucceded to crush Bologan in very convincing manner. Nevertheless he is ready to try it with white as well.

13...Qxb5

[13...Nd8 0.90/20 13...Qxb5 0.13 14.Nc3 a4 1.44/19 *(14...Qc7± 0.67/22)* 15.Bd3± f5 1.90/20 *(15...Nf7± 1.47/20 was worth a try.)* 16.Qc2 1.20/21 *(16.Bd2+- 1.90/20)* 16...h5 2.64/21 *(16...Qa7± 1.20/21)* 17.Nxa4+- Qa7 18.Nc3 Nb6 19.a4± Bologan,V-Vaisser,A/France 2002]

14.Nc3 Qb6 15.Rb1 Wards off a4. White has compensation. **15...Qd8 16.Bd3** -0.34/20
[16.h5± 0.39/23]
16...h6 0.90/19
[16...Qe8? 1.29/20 16...fxe5 -0.45 17.Nb5! Bd8 2.05/23 Prevents Nc7. *(17...Qf7± 1.12/20)* 18.Nd6 Qe7 19.Qc2 1.12/17 *(19.Ng5+- 2.05/19 f5 20.Bb2)* 19...f5 2.23/20 *(19...h6± 1.12/17)* 20.g4↑ Moreno Tejera,E-Rodriguez Fontecha,M/Saragoca 2001]
[16...fxe5 17.dxe5 Nc5? 1.45/19 *(17...h6!∓* -0.36/18 stays ahead.) 18.Nb5? -0.76/21 *(18.Bxh7+!±* 1.45/19 is necessary to keep the advantage. *Kxh7 19.Ng5+ Kh6 20.Qc2)* 18...Nxd3+ 19.Qxd3 h6! Dodges Ng5 20.Qg6 Bd7 0.00/21 *(20...Qb6!∓* -0.53/24 *)* 21.Ng5!∞ Bologan,V-Bauer,C/Belfort 2002]
[16...fxe5!? 17.dxe5 *(17.fxe5 Nxd4 18.Nxd4 Bxh4+ 19.g3 Bxg3+ 20.Kd2 h6=)* 17...h6∓]
[16...fxe5∓ -0.34/20 17.dxe5 *(17.fxe5 Nxd4 18.Nxd4 Nxe5=)* 17...Nc5]
17.Nb5!± Ra6N
[17...Na7 18.Ng5 fxg5 19.hxg5 Nxb5 20.gxh6 Bh4+ 21.Kf1 Nc3 22.Qg4 Qg5 23.Qxe6+ Kh8 24.hxg7+ Kxg7 25.f5 Qh5 26.g4 Qxg4 27.Qh6+ Kf7 28.Qe6+ Kg7 29.Qh6+ Kg8 30.Rxh4 Rxf5+ 31.Bxf5 Qf3+ 0-1 Baramidze,D-Bartel,M 10: German League 2012]
18.Bc2 0.16/21
[Better is 18.Qe2± 1.06/20]
18...f5!=

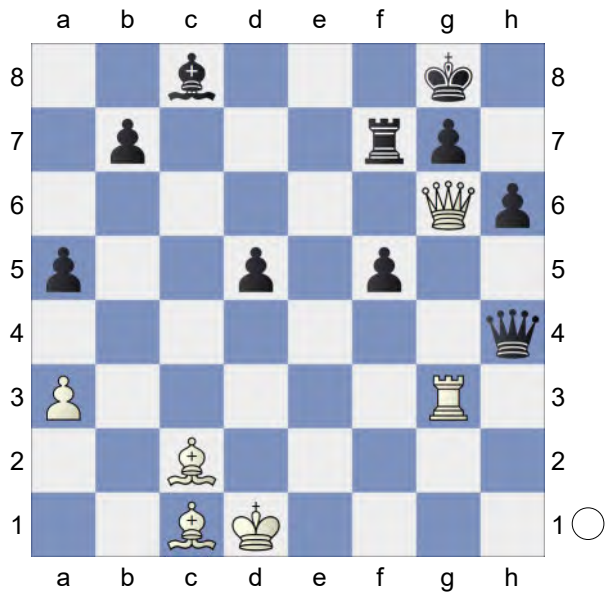
(Diagram)



19.g4! Nb6 I know that taking on g4 opening diagonal b1-h7 sounds crazy, but nevertheless it deserved very serious attention.
[19...fxg4 1.11/22 19...Nb6 0.22
A) 20.Ng1? -1.07/21 20.Ng5 0.93 Rb6 -0.44/23 *(20...Bxh4+∓* -1.07/21 *21.Ke2 g5)*
A1) 21.Qd3 -1.41/23 21.Be3 -0.43 Rf5! 22.Ne2 Bxh4+ -0.67/21 *(22...Nf8∓* -1.38/21 *23.Qg3 h5 24.Bxf5 exf5)* 23.Kf1∓ Nf8∞;
A2) 21.Be3∓ -0.44/23;
A3) 21.Qxg4 -1.40/21 21...Rxb5!∓ 22.Rxb5? -3.06/20 *(22.Qg6∓* -1.24/19 is the only way for White. *Rf5 23.Bxf5)* 22...Nxd4∓;
B) 20.Qd3 (Finkel,A) IM Minero Pineda,Sergio E Rf5;
C) 20.Ng5! hxg5 21.hxg5 Rf5 22.Qxg4 g6? 2.62/23 *(Black should play 22...Nf8!±* 0.49/21 *)* 23.Qh4 Qh8+ would kill now. Nf8∞]
[19...fxg4 20.Ng5! hxg5 21.hxg5]
[19...Na7 20.Nxa7]
20.gxf5

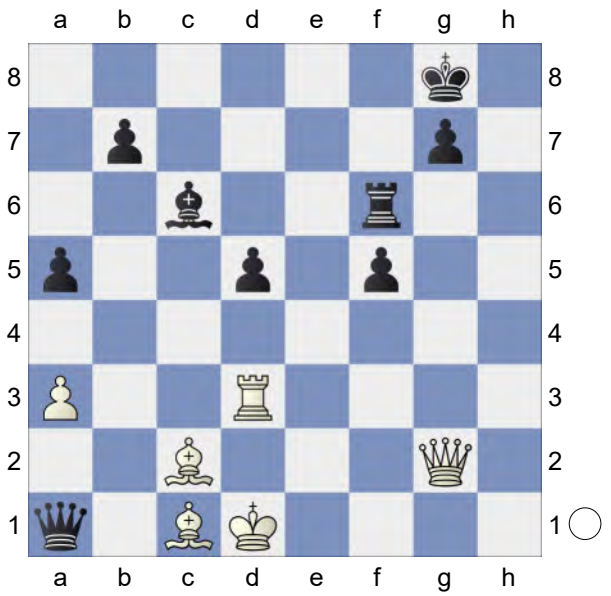
[20.Bd3!?]
20...exf5 21.Bd3!? White's initiative and advnatge in space fully compensate him for the lack of pawn. **21...Na8 22.Kf2 Rb6 23.Qg1!**↑ The queen is heading for g6
[23.Qc2 simplifies Nc7 24.Nc3 Rxb1 25.Qxb1 Bd7 26.Qxb7 Qb8 27.Qxb8 Rxb8 28.Bc2]
23...Nc7 24.Nxc7 Qxc7 25.Rxb6 Qxb6 26.Qg6→ White attacks. **26...Rf7 27.Rg1 Bxh4+!** 2.20/24 Great defensive sacrifice permitting Bareev to force a draw. **28.Nxh4 Qxd4+ 29.Ke2** Really sharp! White has more active pieces. **29...Nxe5 30.fxe5 Qxe5+**
[30...Qxh4 2.67/19 30...Qxe5+ 1.30 (Finkel,A) IM Minero Pineda,Sergio E 31.Qxh6]
31.Kd1
[31.Kd2 And now Nf3! would win.
A) 31...Qf4+ 32.Kc3 0.28/24 *(32.Kc2± 1.46/22 Qa4+ 33.Kc3 Qxh4 34.Bxh6)* 32...Qxh4 1.56/21 *(32...Qf2!= 0.28/24)* 33.Bxh6± Rc7+? 4.51/24 *(33...Qe7± 1.41/21)* 34.Kb2 2.33/19 *(⌓34.Kb3 4.51/24 a4+ 35.Ka2 Qf2+ 36.Kb1)* 34...Qd4+? 4.98/24 *(34...Qe7* 2.33/19 might work better. *35.Ka2 d4)* 35.Ka2+- Qxd3 9.01/36 *(⌓35...Re7 4.84/21 36.Bxg7 Qxg7)* 36.Bxg7+-;
B) 31...Qh2+ 32.Kc3 0.00/32 (White should try *32.Kd1!±* 1.47/21 *Qxh4 33.Bxh6)* 32...Rc7+= 33.Kb3 a4+! 34.Kxa4 Qxh4+ 35.Kb3 Qd4 36.Qe8+ Kh7 37.Qg6+=]
[31.Be3? -0.08/18 31.Kd1 1.62 (Finkel,A) IM Minero Pineda,Sergio E Re7! 32.Rg3 *(32.Qg3?* -2.40/24 32.Nxf5 -0.10 *f4; 32.Ng2 d4!)* 32...Re6! 33.Qxg7+ Qxg7 34.Rxg7+ Kxg7 35.Nxf5+ Kf6]
[31.Kf1 Qc3 32.Ke2 *(32.Bxf5? Bxf5 33.Nxf5 Qxc1+ 34.Kg2 Qc2+ 35.Kh3 Qxf5+-+)* 32...Re7+ 33.Be3 d4 34.Nxf5 Bxf5 35.Bxf5 Qxe3+ 36.Kd1 Qe2+ *(36...Qxa3 37.Qh7+ Kf8 38.Qh8+ Kf7 39.Qxg7+ Ke8 40.Qg8#)* 37.Kc1 Qe3+ 38.Kd1 *(38.Kb2 Qc3+ 39.Kb1 Qb3+ 40.Ka1 Qxa3+ 41.Kb1 Qb3+ 42.Ka1 Qc3+ 43.Kb1 Re1+ 44.Rxe1 Qxe1+ 45.Ka2 Qd2+ 46.Bc2 Qe2=)* 38...Qf3+ *(38...Qxa3 39.Qh7+ Kf8 40.Qh8+ Kf7 41.Qxg7+ Ke8 42.Qg8#)* 39.Kc1 Qxa3+ 40.Kb1 Qb3+ 41.Ka1 Qc3+ 42.Kb1 Re1+ 43.Rxe1 Qxe1+ 44.Kb2 Qe2+ 45.Kb1 Qb5+ 46.Ka1 Qa4+ 47.Kb1 Qb5+ 48.Ka2 Qc6 49.Be6+ Kh8=]
31...Qd4 Repels Qb6 **32.Rg3** 1.50/21 **Qa4+ 33.Bc2**
[33.Ke2 0.19/19 33.Bc2 1.69 (Finkel,A) IM Minero Pineda,Sergio E Re7+! 34.Kf2 Qxh4 35.Bxh6 Kg2! would now be deadly. Qh2+ 36.Kf1 Qh1+ 37.Kf2 Qh2+ 38.Rg2 Qh4+ 39.Kf3 Black must now prevent Qg5! Qh3+ *(39...Qd4!? 40.Bf1□ f4 41.Bxf4 Rf7=)*]
33...Qxh4

(Diagram)



34.Bxh6 0.63/20
[34.Bb2!+- 1.68/22 Qh1+ 35.Kd2]
34...Qd4+± 35.Bd2 Bd7 1.66/23
[35...f4± 0.61/22 36.Qh7+ Kf8 37.Qh8+ Ke7 38.Qh4+ Kd6 39.Qd8+ Bd7 40.Rg6+ Rf6]
36.Rd3 0.30/21
[36.Rh3 0.00/26 36.Kc1 1.38 Rf6 37.Qh7+ Kf7 Threatens to win with ... Qg1+. 38.Qh5+ Kg8!∞]
[36.Kc1 (Finkel,A) IM Minero Pineda, Sergio E Qf6]
[36.Kc1+- 1.66/23 Strongly threatening Bc3! Qa1+ 37.Bb1]
36...Qa1+= 37.Bc1 Rf6 38.Qg2 Bc6

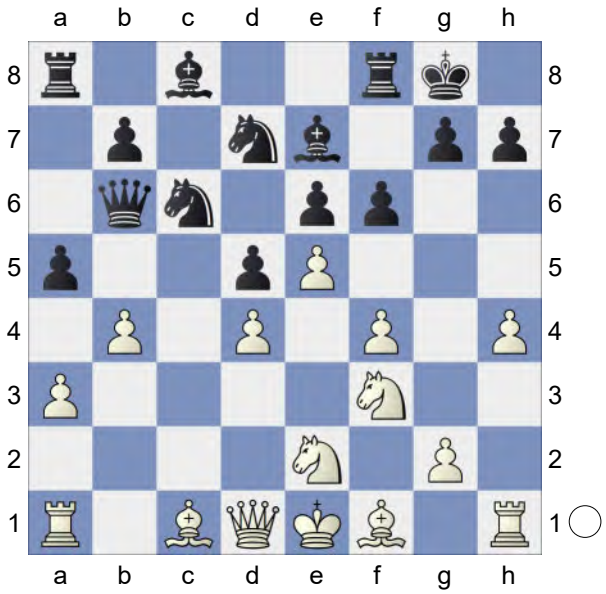
(Diagram)



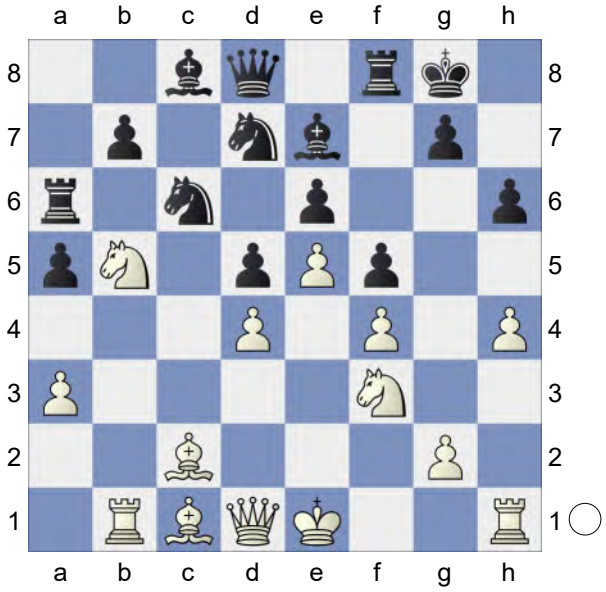
39.Rg3 0.13/20
[39.Bb3!± 0.75/22]
39...Re6 0.59/23
[39...Rh6= 0.13/20]
40.Rd3 0.00/25
[40.Bxf5 Ba4+ 41.Bc2 Re1+ 42.Kxe1 Qxc1+ 43.Kf2 Qxc2+ *(43...Bxc2? is the wrong capture. 44.Qxd5+ Kh8 45.Rh3++-)* 44.Kg1 Qc1+ *(44...Qxg2+ 45.Kxg2 Kf7 46.Rf3+ Kg8 47.Kg3=)* 45.Qf1 Qc7= *(45...Qxf1+ 46.Kxf1 Kf7 47.Rf3+ Kg6 48.Rg3+ Kf7 49.Rf3+ Kg6 50.Rg3+ Kh6 51.Rh3+ Kg5 52.Ke2=)*]
[40.Qd2± 0.59/23]
40...Re4 The position is equal. **41.Qg5 Qe5 42.Be3 Qa1+**
[42...Rg4!? 43.Qd8+□ Kf7=]
43.Bc1! This pair of bishops is nice.
43...Qe5 44.Be3 Qa1+ White really could win this. Weighted Error Value: White=0.25 (precise) /Black=0.23 (precise)
[44...Rg4!? 45.Qd8+□ Kf7=]
½-½

235 **C11**
□ **4.h3 Bg7 5.Nf3 de4 6.Ne** **2582**
■ **10.dc5 Bc5 11.Bd2** **2734**
Nanjing (7) 20.06.2003
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nce2 Nc6 7.c3 Qb6 8.Nf3 f6 9.a3 Be7 10.h4** 0.00/22
[10.b4± 0.40/21]
10...0-0 11.b4 cxd4 12.cxd4
White has an edge. **12...a5**

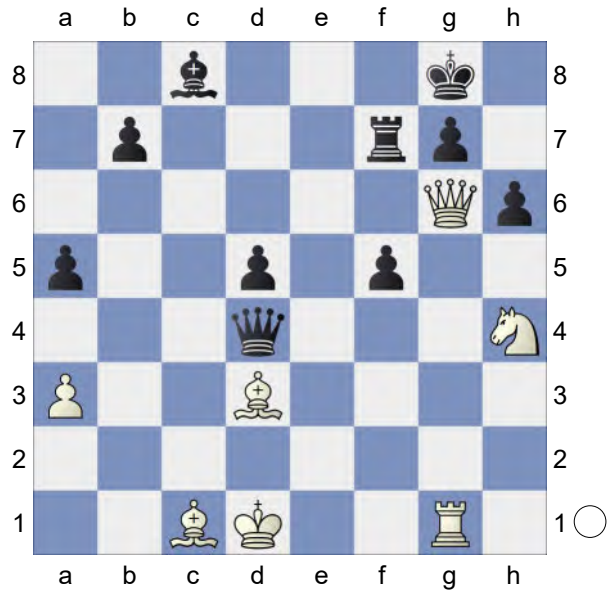


13.b5 Qxb5 14.Nc3 Qb6 15.Rb1
White has compensation. **15...Qd8**
16.Bd3 -0.49/19
[16.h5± 0.36/21]
16...h6 0.88/19
[16...fxe5∓ -0.49/19 keeps the upper hand. 17.dxe5 *(17.fxe5 Nxd4 18.Nxd4 Nxe5=)* 17...Nc5]
17.Nb5!± Ra6N
[17...Na7 18.Ng5 fxg5 19.hxg5 Nxb5 20.gxh6 Bh4+ 21.Kf1 Nc3 22.Qg4 Qg5 23.Qxe6+ Kh8 24.hxg7+ Kxg7 25.f5 Qh5 26.g4 Qxg4 27.Qh6+ Kf7 28.Qe6+ Kg7 29.Qh6+ Kg8 30.Rxh4 Rxf5+ 31.Bxf5 Qf3+ 0-1 Baramidze,D-Bartel,M 10: German League 2012]
18.Bc2 0.38/19
[18.0-0± 1.05/21]
18...f5±



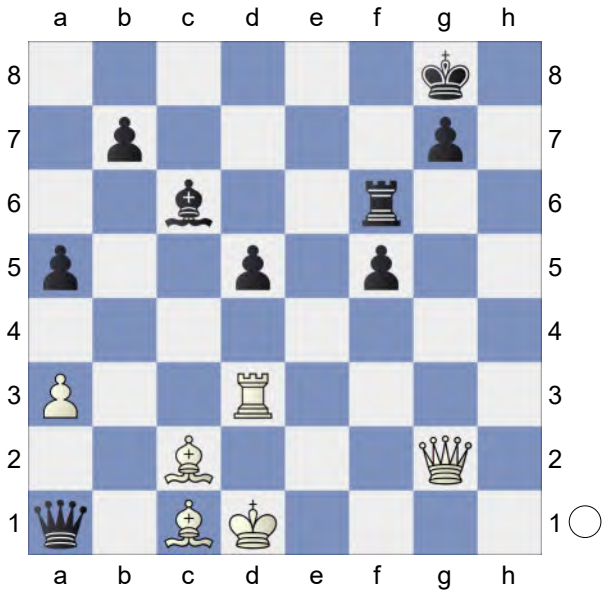
19.g4! Nb6 20.gxf5
[20.g5 is interesting. Nc4 21.Rg1 Kh7 22.Qe2]
20...exf5 21.Bd3! Na8 22.Kf2 Rb6 23.Qg1 Nc7 24.Nxc7
[24.Qg6 with more complications. Ne6 25.Rg1 Kh8 26.Bd2]
24...Qxc7 25.Rxb6 Qxb6 26.Qg6→
Threatens to win with Rg1. Black needs to defend precisely. **26...Rf7** 0.80/21
[26...Qb3= 0.25/21 keeps the balance. 27.Rg1 Rf7]
27.Rg1 aiming for e6! **27...Bxh4+?** 2.13/24 **28.Nxh4 Qxd4+ 29.Ke2**
The board is on fire. White is much more active. **29...Nxe5 30.fxe5 Qxe5+ 31.Kd1**
[31.Kf1 Qc3 32.Qxh6 *(32.Bxf5 Bxf5 33.Nxf5 Qxc1+ 34.Kf2 Qb2+ 35.Kf3 Qe5-+; 32.Bxh6 Qxd3+ 33.Kg2 Qe4+ 34.Kg3 Qd4±; 32.Ke2 Re7+ 33.Be3 d4=* Pin *)* 32...Qxd3+ 33.Kf2 f4=]

31...Qd4

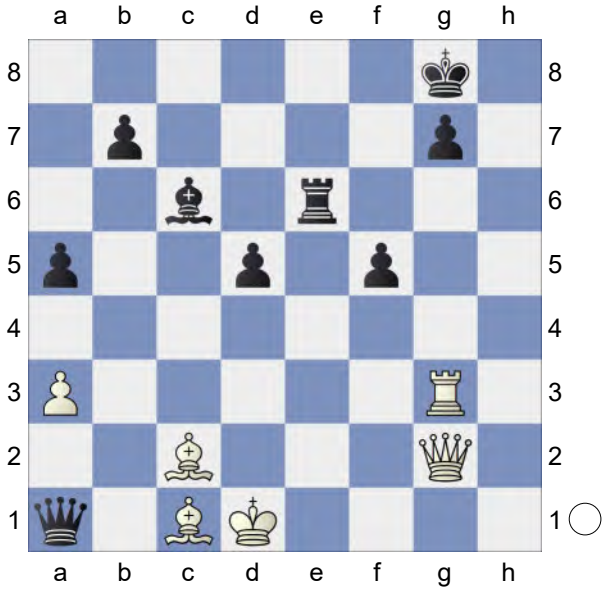


Prevents Qb6 **32.Rg3** Hoping for Ng2.
32...Qa4+ 33.Bc2 Qxh4 2.21/22
[33...Qd4+± 1.51/22 was worth a try. 34.Bd2 Qxh4]
34.Bxh6 0.81/21
[34.Bb2!+- 2.21/22 and the rest is easy. Qh1+ 35.Kd2]
34...Qd4+± 35.Bd2 Bd7 1.41/23
[35...Qa1+± 0.70/19 36.Bc1 Bd7]
36.Rd3 0.23/23
[36.Kc1± 1.41/23 Strongly threatening Bc3! Qa1+ 37.Bb1]
36...Qa1+
[36...Qc4 seems wilder. 37.Kc1 Ba4 38.Rc3 Qf1+]
37.Bc1 Rf6 38.Qg2 Bc6

(Diagram)



39.Rg3 0.12/20
[39.Bb3!± 0.79/21]
39...Re6 0.73/21
[39...Rh6= 0.12/20 remains equal.]



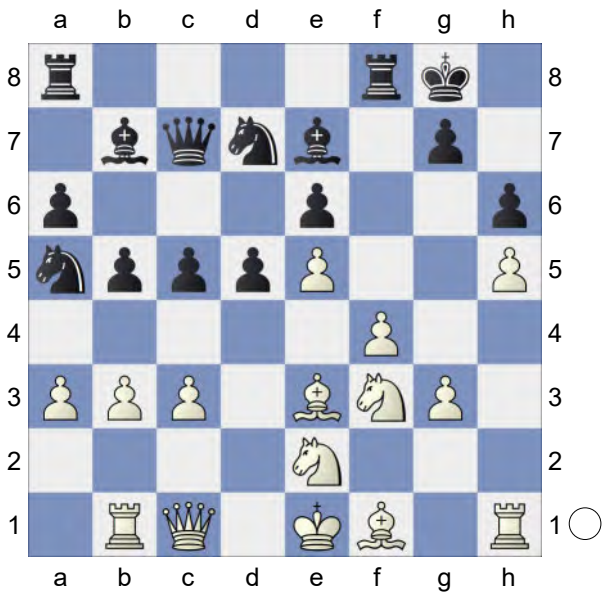
40.Rd3 0.00/23
[Much worse is 40.Bxf5 Ba4+ 41.Bc2 Re1+ 42.Kxe1 Qxc1+ 43.Kf2 Qxc2+ *(43...Bxc2? perishes. 44.Qxd5+ Kh8 45.Rh3++-)* 44.Kg1 Qc1+ *(44...Qxg2+ 45.Kxg2 Kf7 46.Rf3+ Ke6 47.Rg3=)* 45.Qf1 Qc7= *(45...Qxf1+ 46.Kxf1 Kf7 47.Rf3+*

Kg6 48.Ke2=)]
[40.Qd2!± 0.73/21]
40...Re4 The position is equal. **41.Qg5 Qe5 42.Be3 Qa1+**
[42...Rg4!? 43.Qd8+□ Kh7=]
43.Bc1! A strong pair of Bishops.
43...Qe5 44.Be3
[44.Re3!? Qd4+□ 45.Bd2 Qa1+ 46.Bc1 Qd4+ 47.Bd2 Qa1+ 48.Bc1 Qd4+=]
44...Qa1+ Black escapes into a draw. Weighted Error Value: White=0.23 (precise) /Black=0.27 (precise)
[44...Rg4!? 45.Qd8+□ Kf7=]
½-½

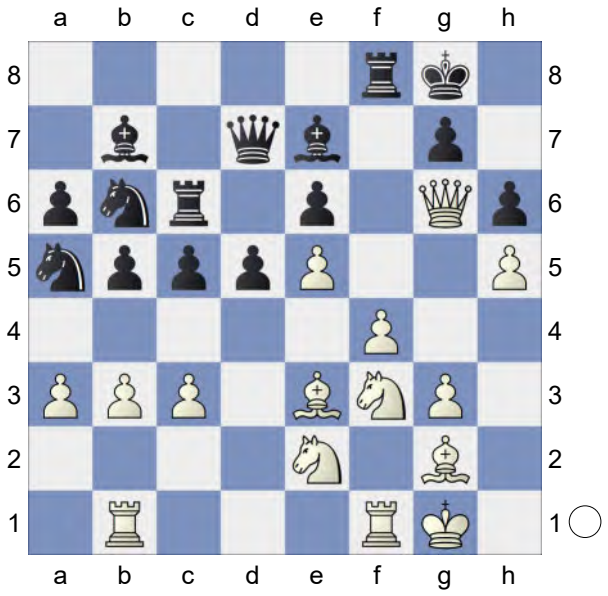
236 **C11**
□ **Maurizzi,Marc Andria** **2581**
■ **Bacrot,Etienne** **2640**
Djerba Festival Masters 2025 (6.5)
[Kitty Kat]

Slow 90min+30sec C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4
1.e4 5 **e6** 9:13 **2.d4** 50 **d5** 8 **3.Nc3** 1:13 **Nf6** 7 **4.e5** 1:18 **Nfd7** 6 **5.f4** 1:21 **c5** 7 **6.Nf3** 14 **Nc6** 5 **7.Be3** 7 **a6** 6 **8.Ne2** 1:40 **Qb6** 49 **9.Qc1** 1:41 **Be7** 7:29 **10.c3** 2:07 The position is equal. **10...0-0** 2:59 **11.h4** 1:16
[11.g3 f6 12.Bg2 cxd4 13.cxd4 Qa5+ 14.Nc3 Nb6 15.exf6 Bxf6 16.b3 Bd7 17.0-0 Rac8 18.Qd2 Be7 19.Ne2 Qxd2 20.Bxd2 Rc7 21.Rac1 Rfc8 22.f5 Ba3 23.Rce1 Bb4 24.Bxb4 Nxb4 25.fxe6 Bxe6 1-0 Caruana,F (2764)-Carlsen,M (2853) Norway Chess 11th Stavanger 2023 (1)]
11...f6 8 **12.h5** 17 **h6** 2:20 **13.a3N** 1:59
[13.Rh3
A) 13...Rf7 14.Qc2 *(14.Kf2 fxe5 15.fxe5 Bg5 16.Kg1 Bxe3+ 17.Qxe3 Qxb2 18.Re1 Ne7 19.Nh4 Nf8 20.Rg3 Kh8 21.Nf4 cxd4 22.cxd4 Bd7 23.Nfg6+ Nfxg6 24.Nxg6+ Kg8 25.Nxe7+ Rxe7 26.Bd3 Kh8 27.Rb1 Qxa2 28.Rxb7 Qa4* 1-0 Xu,Y (2527)-Xu,Y (2554) ch-CHN 2021 Xinghua CHN (8.6)) 14...cxd4 15.Bxd4 Qc7 16.exf6 Nxd4 17.Nexd4 Rxf6 18.f5 Nc5 19.Nh4 Rf7 20.Ndf3 e5 21.g4 e4 22.Nd4 Qf4 23.Ng6 Qxg4 24.Qh2 Nd3+ 25.Bxd3 exd3 26.Re3 d2+ 27.Qxd2 Bh4+ 28.Nxh4 ½-½ Ivic,V (2599)-Di Berardino,D (2472) Olympiad-45 Budapest 2024 (5.13);
B) 13...Qa5 14.Kf2 cxd4 15.cxd4 fxe5 16.fxe5 Ndxe5 17.dxe5 Nxe5 18.Kg1 Ng4 19.Rg3 e5 20.Rxg4 Bxg4 21.Nxe5 Bxh5 22.Nf4 Rac8 23.Qe1 Qxe1 24.Rxe1 Bb4 25.Rb1 d4 26.Bc1 Bf7 27.Nxf7 Rxf7 0-1 Aronian,L (2781)-Bluebaum,M (2670) chess24.com (Internet-rapid) 2021]
13...Na5 10:26 **14.Rb1** 24 **Qc7** 4:09 **15.b3** 4:35 **fxe5** 0.59/18 13:59
[15...b5= 0.22/16 should be considered.]
16.dxe5 8:07 **b5** 5:48 **17.g3** 2:26 **Bb7** 10

(Diagram)



Hoping for ...d4! **18.Bg2!** 46 **Rac8** 7:53
19.0-0! 1:27 **Nb6** 1.21/19 8:43
[19...d4± 0.47/16 20.cxd4 Be4]
20.Qc2 6:14 **Qd7** 1.75/19 8:05
[20...d4± 0.97/17]
21.Qg6+- 4:27 And now f5! would win.
21...Rc6? 5.63/21 7
[21...Nc6 1.74/16 is a better chance. 22.f5 exf5]

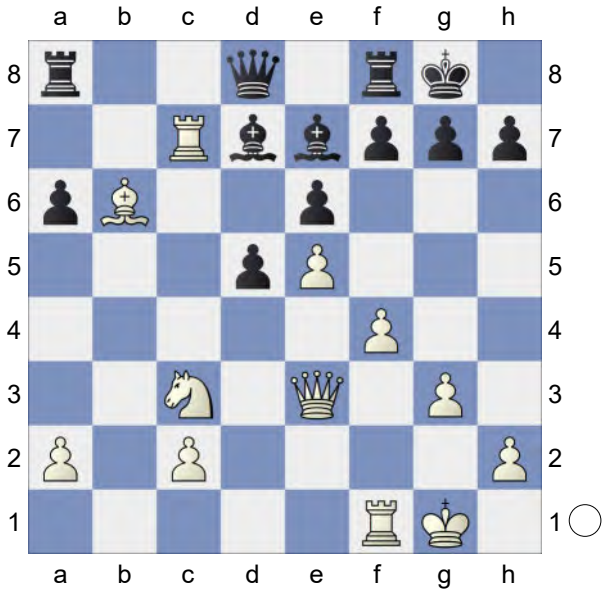


22.Ng5! 5:50 Weighted Error Value: White=0.06 (flawless) /Black=0.56
1-0

237 **C11**
□ **Ivic,Velimir** **2581**
■ **Grischuk,Alexander** **2745**
chess.com (Int.-rapid) 153/114 2022
[Kitty Kat]

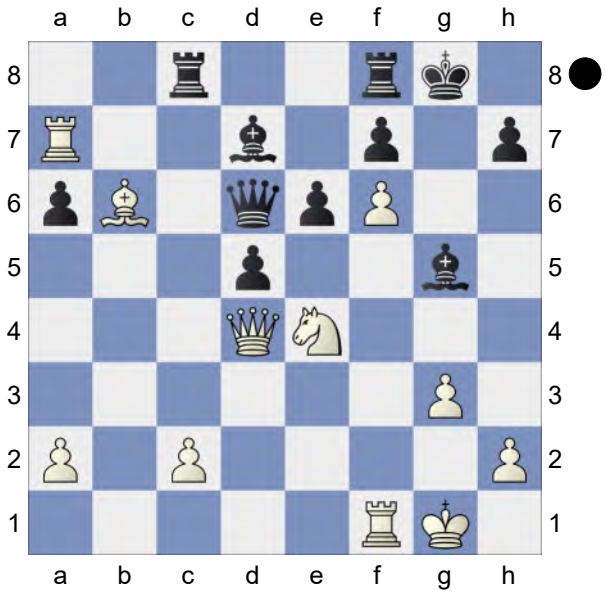
C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Qb6 9.Qd2 Qxb2 10.Rb1 Qa3 11.Bb5! Nxd4 12.Bxd4 a6! 13.Bxd7+ Bxd7** White is slightly better. **14.Rb3 Qe7**
[14...Qa5? 15.Bb6+- *(15.Rxb7 Bb4∓)*]
15.Rxb7 Qh4+ 16.g3 0.29/18
[Better is 16.Qf2± 0.78/22 Qxf2+ 17.Kxf2]
16...Qd8= 17.Bb6 Qc8 18.Rc7↑ White is pushing. **18...Qd8 19.Qe3** Inhibits Bc5.
[19.Qd4!? Ba3 20.Nb1 Be7 21.c4 0-0 22.Nc3 Rc8 23.Rxc8 Qxc8 24.cxd5 exd5 25.0-0 Be6 26.Nxd5 Ba3 27.Rd1 h5 28.Qd3 Qb7 29.Bf2 Qb5 30.Nc7 Qxd3 31.Rxd3 Bb4 32.Nxe6 fxe6 33.Rb3 a5 34.a3 1-0 Sathvik,A (2378)-Akshat,K (2371) Budapest FS09 GM 2024 (9)]
19...Be7N 0.59/24
[19...Bb4= -0.01/22 20.a3 Bxa3 21.f5 Rc8 22.Ra7 Qe7 23.0-0 Bc5 24.Bxc5 Qxc5 25.Qxc5 Rxc5 26.Na4 Rc8 27.Nb6 Rd8 28.f6 gxf6 29.Rxf6 Rg8 30.c4 Rg5 31.c5 Rxe5 32.c6 Bxc6 33.Rfxf7 Rb8 34.Rxh7 Rf5 1-0 Ivic,V (2571)-Bluebaum,M (2674) 149/89 Reykjavik 2021]
20.0-0 -0.01/23
[20.f5± 0.59/24]
20...0-0 0.55/20
[20...Rc8!= -0.01/23 21.Rb7 Qxb6 22.Rxb6 Bc5 23.Qxc5 *(23.Rxe6+?*

fxe6-+) 23...Rxc5]



21.f5!± Bg5 22.Qd4 Rc8 1.13/24
[Black should play 22...Rb8!± 0.35/21]
23.Ra7± White is much more active. Loses the game. **23...Qe7** 4.75/24
[23...Qe8± 0.92/23]
24.f6+- gxf6 25.exf6 Qd6 8.89/24
[25...Qa3 3.22/24 26.Qe5 h6]
26.Ne4
[26.Rxa6? is the wrong capture. Rc4 27.Qd3 *(27.Ne4? Qb8-+)* 27...Qc6-+]

(Diagram)

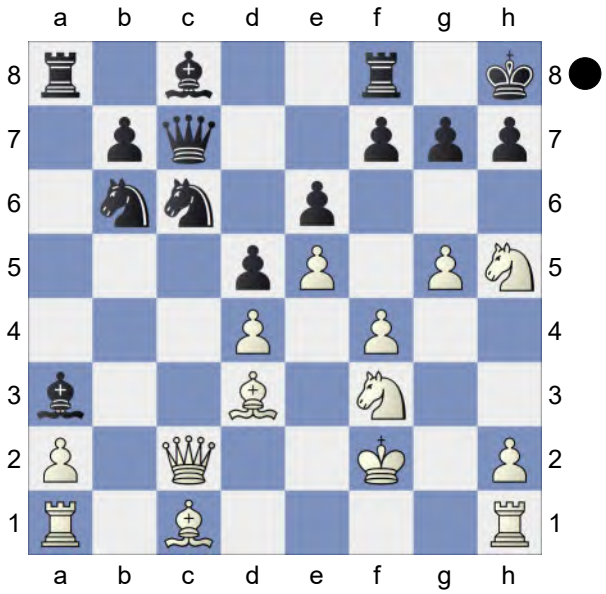


Pin, Double Attack **26...e5 27.Nxd6 exd4 28.Rxd7 Be3+ 29.Kh1 Rxc2 30.Nf5 Rxa2 31.Rxd5 Rb8 32.Nxe3 dxe3 33.Bxe3 h6 34.Bxh6** Threatens to win with Rh5. **34...Rbb2 35.Rh5** Intending Bg7 and mate. **35...Kh7** Weighted Error Value: White=0.43/ Black=1.26 **36.Bc1+**
1-0

238 **C11**
□ **Lodici,Lorenzo** **2564**
■ **Panda,Sambit** **2381**
Masters Open 2024 (3.28) 05.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

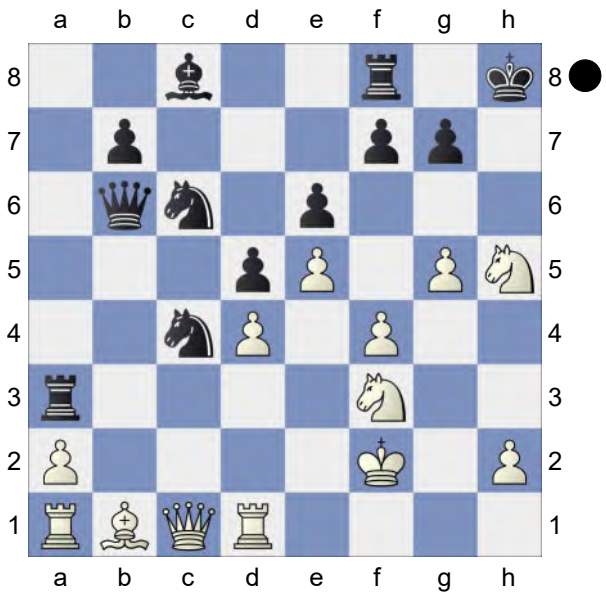
C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 a5N** 7...Be7 is becoming the main line. 7...Le7 wird zur Hauptvariante.
[7...Qb6 8.Nf3 f6 9.a3 Be7 10.Ng3 cxd4 11.cxd4 0-0 12.Bd3 fxe5 13.fxe5 Nxd4 14.Nxd4 Nxe5 15.Rf1 Bd7 16.b4 Ba4 17.Bc2 Bxc2 18.Nxc2 Rxf1+ 19.Nxf1 Rf8 Ardelean,G (2477)-Manole,V (2360)

90/(223) Romania 2004]
[7...Be7 8.Nf3
A) 8...0-0 9.g3 b5 *(9...b6 10.Bh3 Ba6 11.0-0 cxd4 12.cxd4 Re8 13.Rf2 Rc8 14.f5 Nf8 15.Be3 Qd7 16.Qb1 Rc7 17.a3 Na5 18.fxe6 fxe6 19.b3 Bxe2 20.Rxe2 Rc3 21.Nd2 Nxb3 22.Nxb3 Qb5 23.Nc1 Rxc1+ 24.Qxc1* ½-½ Hogervorst,P-De Weert,S NED M-288 corr Netherland 1999*)* 10.a3 a5 11.Bh3 b4 12.0-0 bxc3 13.bxc3 Ba6 14.Rf2 g6 15.g4 f5 16.gxf5 Bxe2 17.Rxe2 gxf5 18.Ng5 Bxg5 19.fxg5 Rf7 20.Bf1 cxd4 21.cxd4 Qb6 22.Be3 Rb8 23.Rc1 ½-½ Moussard,J (2676)-Handler,L (2442) Oesterreich 156/109 2023;
B) 8...f6 9.Be3 0-0 10.g3 Qb6 11.Qd2 cxd4 12.Nfxd4 Nc5 13.exf6 Bxf6 14.Nb3 Ne4 15.Qd3 Qc7 16.Bg2 Nd6 17.Bf2 Nc4 18.Qc2 Ne7 19.0-0 e5 20.fxe5 Bf5 21.exf6 Bxc2 22.fxe7 ½-½ Corfield,J (2762)-Ernst,H (2777) EU-ch 14th Legnica 2013]
[7...f6 8.Nf3 fxe5 9.fxe5 Be7 10.Nf4 Nf8 11.Bd3 Bd7 12.Nh5 Rg8 13.0-0 cxd4 14.cxd4 Qb6 15.Be3 0-0-0 16.Rf2 Kb8 17.Bf1 Ka8 18.a3 Ng6 19.Qd2 Na5 20.Qd3 Nb3 21.Rd1 Rc8 22.Nd2 1-0 Tatarinov,D (2180)-3. Nc3 Bb4 4.f3 Nc6 (1968) Match, Stockholm 2013 (1)]
8.Nf3 a4 9.Kf2 'N'
[9.Be3 Be7 10.Qd2 0-0 11.h4 b5 12.dxc5 Nxc5 13.Bxc5 Bxc5 14.Ned4 Nxd4 15.cxd4 1-0 Duda,J (2743)-Caruana,F (2823) Chess.com Speed blitz 2020 (1.19)]
9...Be7 The position is equal. **10.g4 Qc7 11.Ng3 cxd4 12.cxd4 a3 13.bxa3 Nb6** 0.65/20
[13...f6= 0.16/20 should be considered.]
14.Nh5 0-0 1.06/18
[14...g6!± 0.31/23 15.Ng3 0-0]
15.g5!± Bxa3 16.Qc2 0.18/21 Inhibits Nc4.
[16.Nf6+± 0.94/20 gxf6 17.gxf6]
16...Kh8 0.77/21
[16...Bxc1= 0.18/21 remains equal. 17.Rxc1 Ra3]
17.Bd3 -0.72/18
[17.Rg1± 0.77/21 and life is bright.]



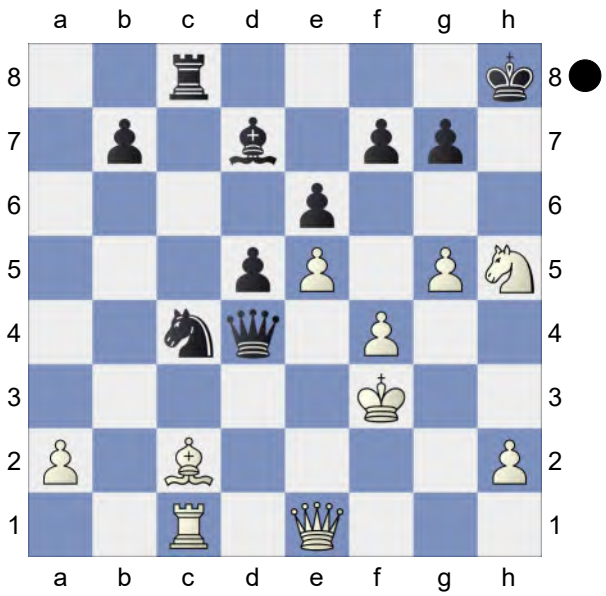
17...Nc4! 18.Bxh7 -1.58/21
[⌓18.Rd1 -0.74/18]
[18.Rb1 Nb4]
18...Bxc1!∓ 19.Qxc1
[19.Rhxc1? Ra3 20.Rd1 *(20.Bd3? Nb4-+)* 20...g6-+]
19...Ra3! White must now prevent ... Rxf3+.
[19...Kxh7? 20.a3 Qb6 21.Qc2+ Kg8 22.Qc3-+]
20.Bb1 Qb6 21.Rd1

(Diagram)

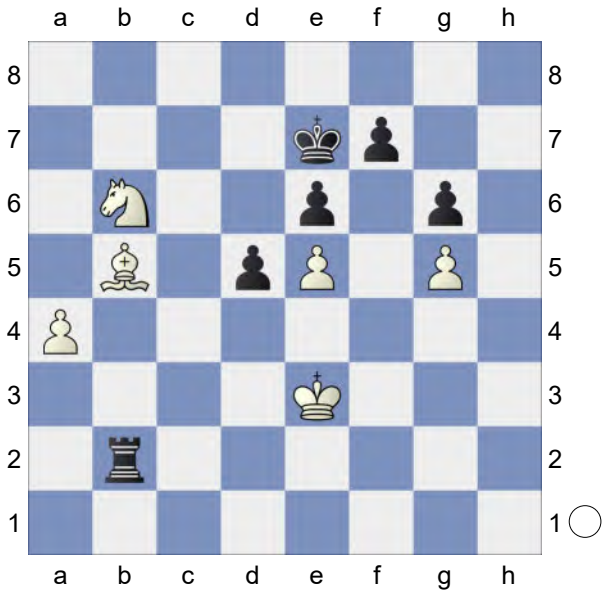


Rxf3+ -0.48/19 **22.Kxf3∓** Kg2 is the strong threat. **22...Nxd4+** **23.Rxd4** -1.70/18 **Qxd4-+** **24.Bc2?** -3.85/21
[24.Qe1 -1.87/20 Nd2+ *(24...Qxa1 25.Qh4=)* 25.Kg4]
24...Bd7 **25.Qe1** Rd1 would now be deadly. **25...Rc8** Strongly threatening ... Nd2+. **26.Rc1** -3.85/20
[26.Rd1 -2.36/19 was the only defense. Nxe5+ Discovered Attack 27.fxe5 Rc3+ 28.Rd3 Rxd3+ *(28...Rxc2? 29.Rxd4 Bb5 30.Nf6+-)* 29.Bxd3 Qxd3+ 30.Qe3 Qd1+ 31.Qe2]

(Diagram)



26...Nxe5+? -0.21/21 **27.Qxe5=**
[27.fxe5? Rxc2 28.Rxc2 Qd3+ 29.Qe3 Qxc2-+]
27...Rc3+ **28.Kg4** **Qxe5** **29.fxe5** **Ba4** **30.Bxa4** **Rxc1** **31.Be8** **g6** Black has compensation. **32.Nf6** **Kg7** **33.Bb5** **Rc2** **34.a4** **Rxh2** **35.Ne8+** **Kf8** **36.Nd6** **b6** **37.Nc8** **Rg2+** **38.Kf4** **Rf2+** **39.Kg4** **Rg2+** **40.Kf4** **Rf2+** **41.Ke3** **Rb2** 3.68/28
[41...Rc2!± 0.57/24 42.Nxb6 Ke7]
42.Nxb6 **Ke7**



43.Nc8+! **Kd8** **44.Nd6** **Kc7** **45.Be8**

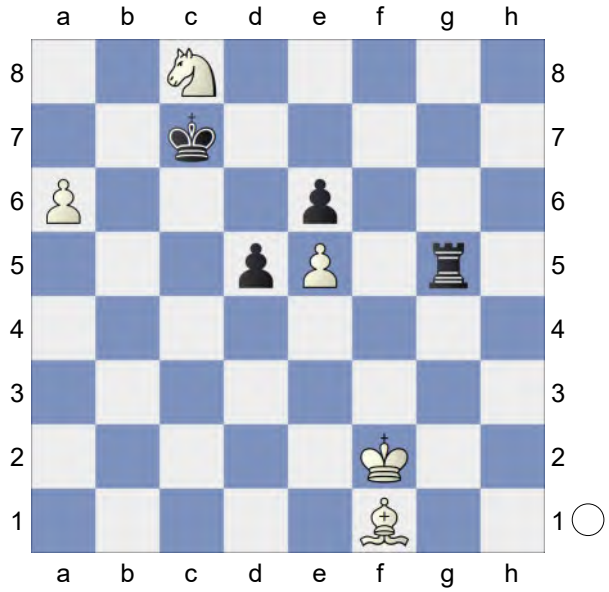
[Weaker is 45.Nxf7 Ra2 46.Bd3 Rxa4 47.Bxg6 Kd7+-]

45...Rg2 46.Nxf7

[46.Bxf7 Rxg5 47.Kf4 *(47.Bxe6? perishes. Rxe5+ 48.Kd2 Rxe6-+)* 47...Rg1±]

46...Rg4 47.a5 Rg3+ 48.Kf4 Rg1 49.Bb5 White is clearly winning.

49...Ra1 50.a6 Ra3 51.Nh8 Kb6 52.Bf1 Ra4+ 53.Kf3 Ra3+ 54.Kf2 Ra4 55.Nxg6 Rg4 56.Ne7 Rxg5 57.Nc8+ Kc7



58.a7! Rf5+ 59.Kg3 What a bad dream for Black. Weighted Error Value: White=0.25 (precise) /Black=0.43 What a bad dream for Black. Weighted Error Value: White=0.25 (precise) /Black=0.43

1-0

239 **C11**

□ **Alekseev,Evgeny V** **2563**

■ **Divya,Deshmukh** **2400**

Astana Zhuldyzdary op-A (3) 12.07.2023

[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Bc5 9.Qd2 0-0 10.0-0-0 a6 11.Kb1 Nxd4 12.Bxd4 b5 13.Qe3 Qc7** 0.50/19

[13...Qb6!= 0.11/19]

14.Bd3± White is slightly better.

14...Bxd4 15.Qxd4 Bb7 0.74/21

[15...Rb8= 0.01/20 16.h4 b4 17.Na4 a5 18.h5 Bb7 19.h6 g6 20.Bb5 Bc6 21.Bxc6 Qxc6 22.b3 Rfc8 23.Qd2 Nc5 24.Nxc5 Qxc5 25.Rh3 Rb6 26.g4 a4 27.Rh2 Rbc6 28.Qd4 Qa5 29.f5 Rc3 30.fxg6 fxg6 0-1 7.f3 00 8. ♕d2 d5 9.000 de4_ (2370)-Buckley,S (2203) Match Saint Amant-Staunton +3-2=1 1843 (3)]

16.Ne2N 0.35/18

[Better is 16.h4± 0.74/21]

[16.Rhe1 Nc5 17.Ne2 Rac8 18.Qe3 Ne4 19.Nd4 Qe7 20.Nf3 Qb4 21.Ka1 Qe7 22.Ng5 d4 23.Qh3 Nxg5 24.fxg5 g6 25.Qg4 Rc5 26.h4 Qc7 27.Qf4 Bxg2 28.Qxd4 Bh3 29.c3 Rd8 30.Qf4 Bf5 0-1 Polgar,J (2678)-Luther,T (2568) EU-ch 2nd Ohrid 2001 (3)]

16...f6 17.exf6 Rxf6 1.07/18

[17...Nxf6± 0.58/20 18.Rhf1 Ne4]

18.Qe3 0.36/19

[18.Rhe1± 1.07/18]

18...b4 0.72/18

[18...e5± 0.36/19 feels stronger. 19.fxe5 Nxe5]

19.Rhe1 Nc5 20.Nd4 Ne4 1.12/20

[20...a5± 0.37/19]

21.g3± Kh8 1.83/20

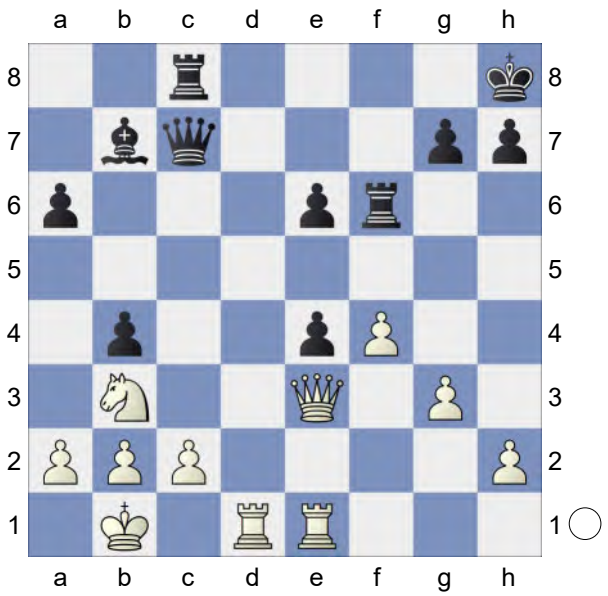
[21...Rc8± 0.79/20 might work better.]

22.Nb3 1.10/20

[22.Nf3!+- 1.83/20]

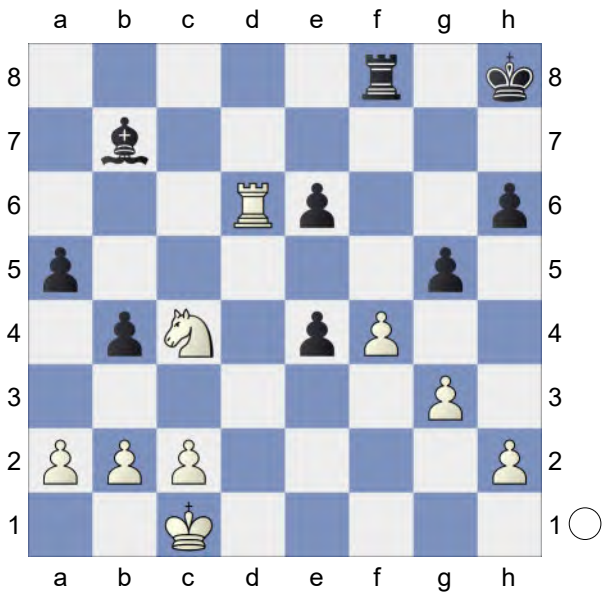
22...Rc8 23.Bxe4 dxe4

(Diagram)

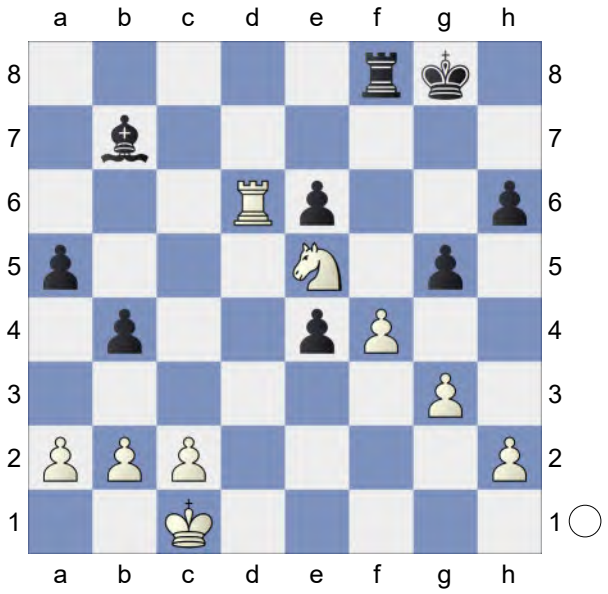


24.Qc5 Active counter play! **24...h6** 2.05/23
[24...Rf7± 1.35/20]
[24...Kg8 25.Qxc7]
25.Qxc7+- Rxc7 26.Nd2 Rd7 2.05/22
[26...e5± 1.55/23]
27.Nc4 0.89/21
[27.Kc1!+- 2.05/22 has better winning chances.]
27...Rxd1+± 28.Rxd1 Endgame KRB-KRN **28...a5?** 4.07/21 **29.Rd6** 2.38/20
[⌓29.Nxa5 4.07/21 Bd5 30.a3]
29...Rf8 30.Kc1 1.09/20
[30.Rxe6? Bd5 31.Re5 Bxc4-+]
[30.Rb6!+- 2.69/21 is the precise move to win. Bd5 31.Ne3 *(31.Nxa5? e3-+)*]
30...g5

(Diagram)



31.Ne5!
[31.Rxe6 Bd5 32.Rxh6+ Kg7-+]
[31.Nxa5 gxf4 32.gxf4 *(32.Nxb7? f3-+)* 32...Bd5=]
31...Kg8

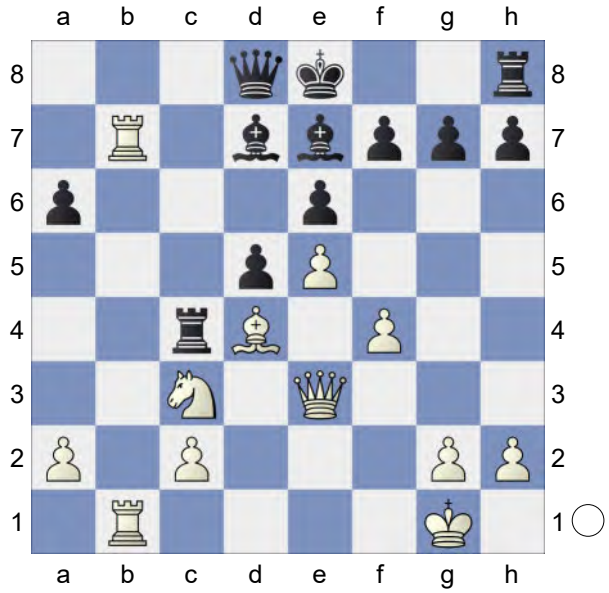


32.Rd7? 0.01/22
[Worse is 32.Rxe6 gxf4 33.Rg6+ *(33.Rxh6?* loses. *f3-+)* 33...Kh7∓]
[32.Ng6!+- 1.91/20 Re8 33.Rd7]
32...gxf4= 33.gxf4
[33.Rxb7 f3 34.Nc4 *(34.Ng4 f2∓)* 34...f2∓]
33...Bd5 34.Ng6 Dodges Rxf4 **34...Rf6**

35.Ne7+ Kf8 36.Nxd5 exd5 37.Rxd5 Rxf4 38.Rxa5 KR-KR. White is a pawn up. **38...e3 39.Kd1** And now Re5 would win. **39...Rf2 40.Re5 Rd2+ 41.Kc1 Re2** Black escapes into a draw. Weighted Error Value: White=0.38/Black=0.34 **42.Kd1** Inhibits Re1+. Sensor Board Error (Ke4/e5)?
1-0

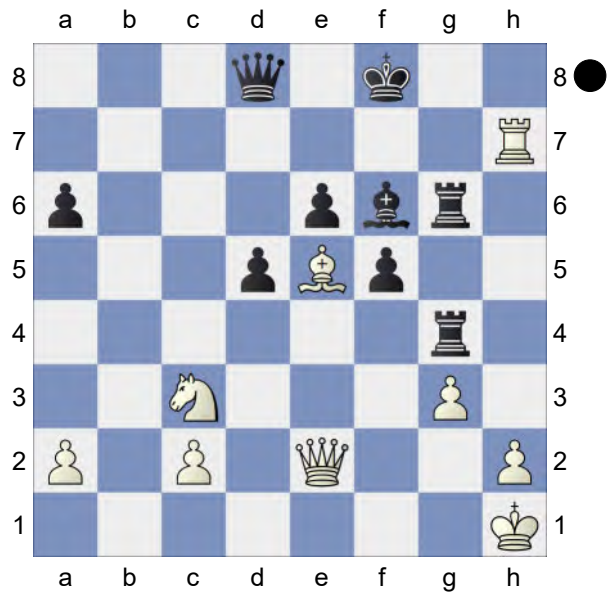
240 **C11**
□ **Witte,V.** **2535**
■ **Branowski,Mieczyslaw Wiliam**
CCLA ch-4 corr USA (2) 30.05.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Qb6 9.Qd2 Qxb2 10.Rb1 Qa3 11.Bb5! Nxd4 12.Bxd4 a6 13.Bxd7+ Bxd7** White is slightly better. **14.Rb3 Qe7**
[14...Qa5? 15.Bb6+- *(15.Rxb7 Bb4∓)*]
15.Rxb7 Rc8 16.0-0 Qd8 17.Qe3 Rc4 18.Rfb1! Be7

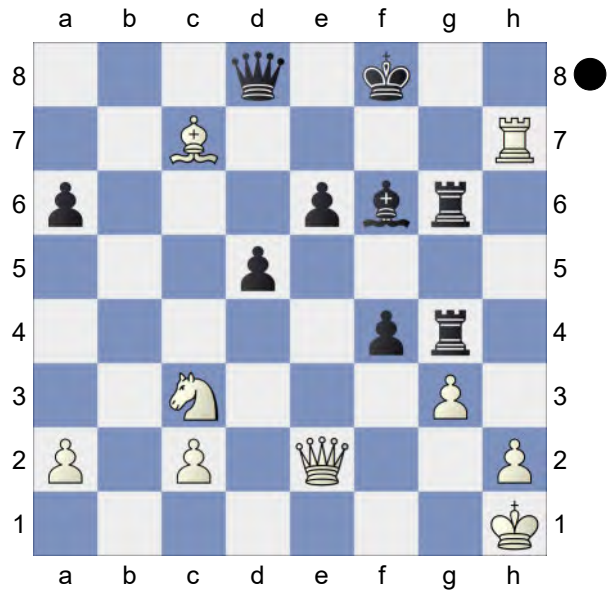


19.f5! Hoping for f6!. **19...Bg5** 0.59/22
[19...Bc8= 0.23/20 20.Ra7 Bg5]
20.Qf2 -0.18/19
[20.Qd3± 0.59/22 0-0 21.Ne4]
20...exf5= Black wants to play ...0-0.
21.e6 Discovered Attack
[21.Nxd5? Bc8 *(21...0-0 22.Nb6=)* 22.R7b4 *(22.Nb6? Rxd4-+)* 22...Qxd5-+]
21...fxe6 22.Bxg7 Rg8 23.Be5 Bf6 Wards off Kh1
[23...d4 24.Qe2 Be3+ 25.Kf1 Qh4 26.Rxd7 Kxd7 27.Rb7+ Ke8 28.Rb8+ Kf7 29.Rb7+ Ke8 30.Rb8+ Kf7 31.Rb7+ Ke8 ½-½ Aronian,L (2763)-Vallejo Pons,F (2693) Karlsruhe/Baden-Baden 140/110 2019]
24.Rxd7 -0.68/18 **Kxd7∓ 25.Rb7+N** -4.10/23
[25.Qa7+∓ -0.51/22 Rc7 *(25...Ke8? 26.Bxf6 Qc7 27.Rb8+ Kf7 28.Rb7+-)* 26.Bxc7 Qxc7 27.Qxa6 *(27.Rb7? Bd4+* Deflection *28.Qxd4 Qxb7-+)* 27...Rb8]
25...Ke8-+ 26.Qe2 -4.87/21
[26.Bxf6 -2.66/20 Qxf6 27.Rb8+ Kd7 *(27...Kf7? 28.Qa7+* Skewer *Qe7 29.Rb7+-* Pin *)* 28.Rxg8 Qxc3 *(28...Rxc3 29.h3∓)* 29.h3]
26...Rg6
[26...Rxc3? 27.Qh5+ *(27.Bxc3 Rg6+-)* 27...Rg6 28.Qxh7+- *(28.Bxc3 Bxc3 29.Qxh7 Rxg2+* Double Attack *30.Kf1 Rg1+ 31.Kf2 Bd4+ 32.Kf3 Qd6-+)*]
27.Kh1
[27.Rb8 Rc8 28.Bxf6 Rxf6-+]
27...Kf8
[27...Rxc3 28.Bxc3 Bxc3 29.Qxa6±]
28.Rxh7 Rcg4 29.g3

(Diagram)

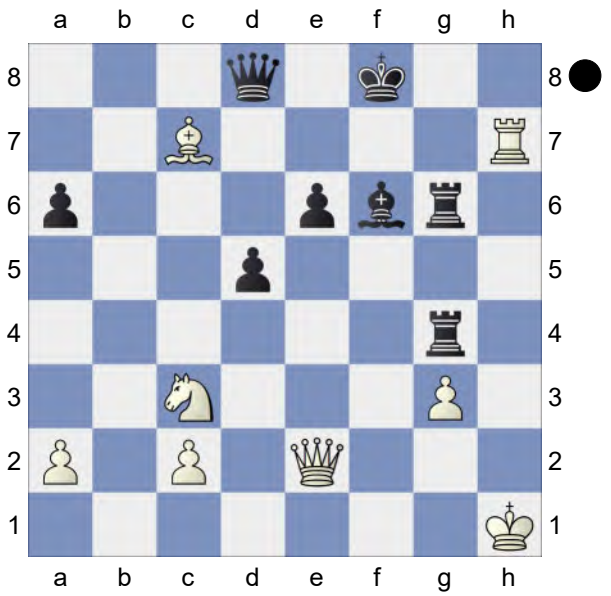


f4 -2.22/20 **30.Bc7?** -6.98/21
[30.Rb7 -2.22/20 fxg3 31.hxg3]

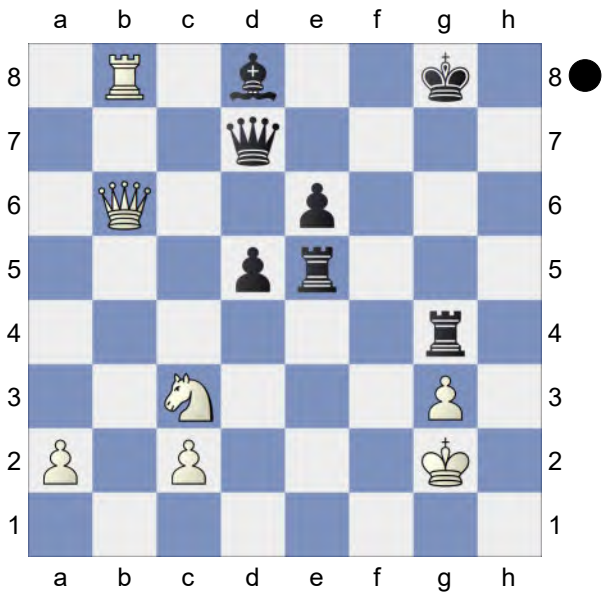


30...fxg3! 31.hxg3

(Diagram)



Qe8 32.Bd6+ Kg8 33.Rb7 Bd8
[Less strong is 33...Bxc3 34.Rb8∓]
34.Rb8 Rg7? -0.01/22
[34...Kh7-+ -4.45/18 35.Rb7+ Kg8]
35.Kg2 -0.60/20
[White should play 35.Be5!= -0.01/22
Rh7+ 36.Kg1]
35...Qd7 0.01/19
[35...Kh7!∓ -0.60/20 36.Qd3+ R7g6]
36.Be5!= R7g5 and ...Kh7 should not be overlooked **37.Qxa6?** -8.34/21
Rxe5-+ 38.Qb6

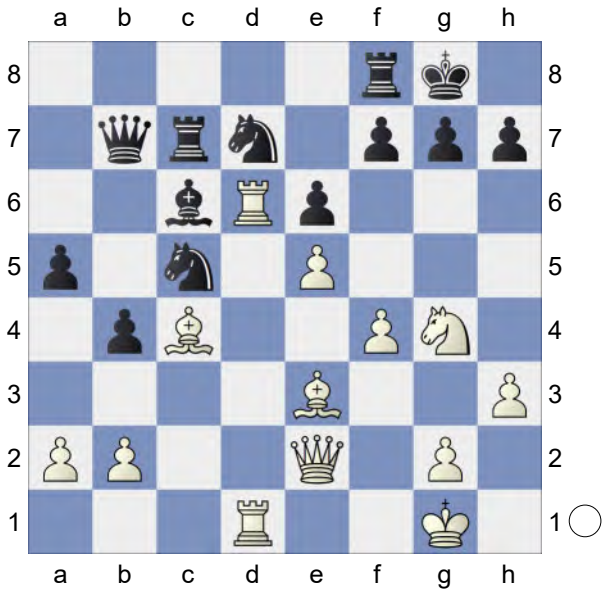


Rxg3+!! Black mates. **39.Kxg3**

[39.Kf1 Rf3+]
39...Qg7+ 40.Kf2 Weighted Error Value: White=0.96/Black=0.60 **40...Qf6+ 0-1**

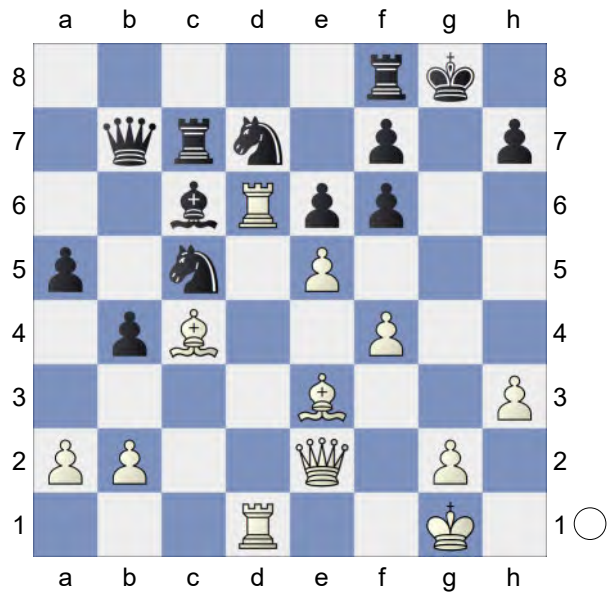
241 **C11**
□ **Adhiban,Baskaran** **2535**
■ **Nandhidhaa,P V** **2339**
Masters Open 2024 (1.32) 03.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 Browne,W: 'Inf 100/189' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.Qd2 Be7 9.Be2 0-0 10.0-0 b5 11.Nd1 b4** The position is equal. **12.Nf2 a5 13.dxc5**
[13.Kh1 Qb6 14.dxc5 Bxc5 15.Bxc5 Nxc5 16.Qe3 Bb7 17.Bd3 h6 18.Ng4 d4 19.Qf2 Nxd3 20.cxd3 Ne7 Situru,N-Bluemich,M (ch) India 1988]
13...Nxc5
[13...Bxc5 14.Bxc5 Nxc5 15.Bd3 Ba6 16.Qe3 Bxd3 17.cxd3 Na4 18.Rab1 Ne7 19.Rfc1 Qd7 20.Nd4 Rfc8 21.Nd1 Rxc1 22.Rxc1 Rc8 23.Kf1 h5 24.Qd2 Qb7 25.Rxc8+ Qxc8 26.Ke2 Qc5 27.Qe3 Nc6 28.Nb3 ½-½ 9.Nd2 a5/ 14.Qc2 Ngf6 15.Bd3 (2745)-Sethuraman,S (2610) L. de pag.59 Neustadt 1915]
14.c4N
[14.Nd4 Nxd4 15.Bxd4 Ba6 16.Rae1 Qc7 17.Kh1 Rfc8 18.Qe3 Bxe2 19.Rxe2 Ra6 20.g4 Rc6 21.f5 Kh8 22.f6 gxf6 23.exf6 Bd6 24.Qh6 Rg8 25.Qh5 Rg6 26.Nh3 Ne4 27.Rxe4 dxe4 28.Ng5 Rxg5 0-1 Browne,W (2447)-Akobian,V (2574) (ch) 100/189 United States 2007 29.Qxg5 Bf8 30.c3 a4 31.a3 bxa3 32.bxa3 Qb7 33.Kg1 Rc8 34.Re1 Qd5 35.Qe3 Bxa3 36.Ra1 Bf8 37.Rxa4 e5 38.Qg5 Qb3 0-1 Browne,W (2526)-De Guzman,R (2481) 119/112 Reno 2013]
14...dxc4 15.Bxc4 Bb7 16.Qe2 Rc8 17.Rac1 Nb8 1.40/22
[Black should play 17...a4± 0.36/17]
18.Rfd1 Qb6 1.57/15
[⌓18...Nbd7 1.18/19]
19.Nd4± Black must now prevent f5.
19...Nbd7 20.Ng4 Strongly threatening Nxe6! **20...Qc7 21.Nb5 Qb8 22.Nd6 Bxd6 23.Rxd6** 0.94/20
[⌓23.exd6 1.57/21 Ba8 24.Ne5 Nxe5 25.fxe5]
23...Bc6 24.Rcd1 Qb7 25.h3 White has more active pieces. **25...Rc7** 1.68/16
[25...Be4± 0.97/17 keeps fighting.]



26.Nf6+!+- gxf6
[26...Nxf6 27.exf6]

(Diagram)



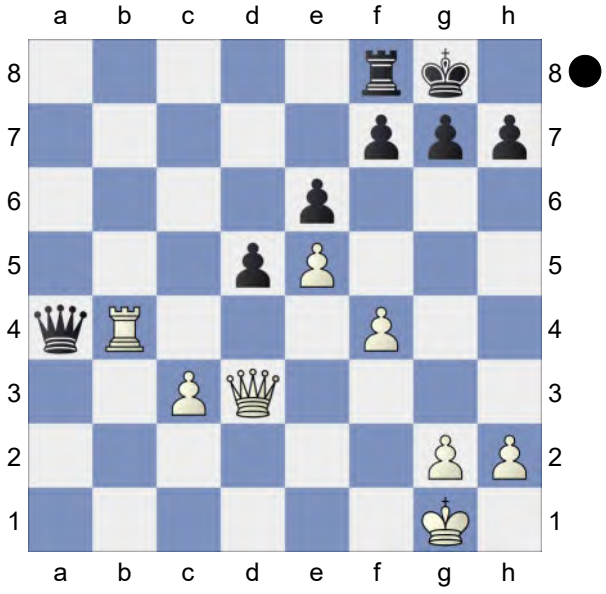
27.Bxc5! Nxc5 #5/19
[27...f5± 1.21/19]
28.Qg4+ Kh8 29.exf6 Weighted Error Value: White=0.08 (flawless) /Black=0.40
1-0

242 **C11**
□ **Petrov,Martin** **2530**
■ **Bacrot,Etienne** **2646**
Bundesliga 2223 (8.2) 25.02.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 Komarov,D/Primel,D: 'Svidler, P: 'Inf 96/204'' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.Qd2 b5 9.a3 Qa5 10.Ra2** -0.05/19
[10.Be2± 0.31/18]
10...Qc7
[10...Qb6 11.Ne2 b4 12.axb4 Nxb4 13.Ra1 Nc6 14.b3 Bb7 15.Nc3 Qc7 16.Na4 cxd4 17.Nxd4 Bb4 18.c3 Nxd4 19.Bxd4 Be7 20.Bd3 0-0 21.0-0 f5 22.exf6 Bxf6 23.Qe3 Rae8 24.b4 e5 25.fxe5 1-0 Svidler,P (2765)-Komarov,D (2516) FRA-chT Top 16 GpA 2006 (3)]
[10...b4 11.axb4 Qxb4 12.Ne2 Qb6 13.c3 a5 14.f5 cxd4 15.Nexd4 Nxd4 16.Bxd4 Bc5 17.fxe6 fxe6 18.Bd3 Ba6 19.0-0 Bxd4+ 20.cxd4 Nxe5 21.Bxa6 Nxf3+ 22.Rxf3 Rxa6 23.b4 Rf8 24.Rxf8+ Kxf8 25.Qf4+ 1-0 Martinez Alcantara,J (2607)-Novoselov,R (2261) Titled Tuesday intern op 17th Sep Early blitz 2024 (7)]
11.Be2N -0.09/21
[⌓11.Bd3 0.28/17 Be7 12.0-0 cxd4 13.Nxd4 0-0 14.Raa1 Bb7 15.Nxc6 Qxc6 16.Ne2 Qc7 17.c3 g6 18.Bd4 Nc5 19.Bc2 a5 20.Qe3 Rfc8 21.g4 Ne4 22.Ng3 Nxg3 23.hxg3 b4 Giovani,M-Akdag,M LSS Masters Group B 1st 2010]
11...Bb7 The position is equal. **12.0-0 Rc8** 0.33/20
[12...cxd4= -0.14/20 deserves consideration. 13.Nxd4 Nxd4 14.Bxd4 Bc5]
13.dxc5 -0.18/21
[13.Bd3± 0.33/20]
13...Bxc5= 14.Bxc5 Nxc5 15.Qe3 Qb6 16.Nd1 b4 17.Ra1 a5 18.axb4 axb4 19.Nd4 0-0 20.Nxc6 Qxc6
[20...Bxc6? 21.Ra6 Qxa6 22.Bxa6 Nxa6 23.f5 *(23.Qb6 Nb8+-)* 23...exf5 24.e6+- *(24.Rxf5 Bd7±; 24.Qb6 Nb8+-)*]
21.Qd4 b3
[21...Ba6!? 22.Bxa6 Nxa6=]
22.c3 Ra8 Wards off Ra5 **23.Nf2** -1.04/19
[23.Ne3= 0.01/19]
23...Ra2!∓ 24.Nd3 -1.71/21
[24.Rab1∓ -0.89/21]
24...Nxd3-+ Remove Defender **25.Bxd3 Rxb2 26.Rab1** -2.48/24

[26.Rf2∓ -1.45/19 keeps fighting. Rxf2 27.Kxf2]

26...Rxb1 27.Rxb1 Ba6 28.Rxb3 Strongly threatening Rb6. **28...Bxd3 29.Qxd3** Endgame KQR-KQR **29...Qa4 30.Rb4**



Qa7+ 31.Kh1? -3.48/25

[31.Qd4∓ -1.48/19 Qa1+ 32.Kf2]

31...Rc8 -1.57/24

[31...Qf2-+ -3.48/25 (→ ...Qe1+) 32.h3 Rc8]

32.h3? -3.55/26

[32.h4∓ -1.57/24]

32...Qf2 33.Kh2 g6? -0.79/25

[33...h6-+ -3.32/27 and Black stays clearly on top. 34.Ra4 g6]

34.Rd4? -4.11/26

[34.Qg3∓ -0.79/25 Qxg3+ 35.Kxg3]

34...Kg7 -1.67/25

[⌓34...h5 -4.11/26 35.Qd2 *(35.c4? h4-+)* 35...Qxd2 36.Rxd2 Rxc3]

35.c4? -5.54/29

[35.Qf3 -1.67/25 nothing else works. Qxf3 Remove Defender 36.gxf3]

35...h5 36.f5 exf5 37.Rxd5

[37.cxd5? Rc2]

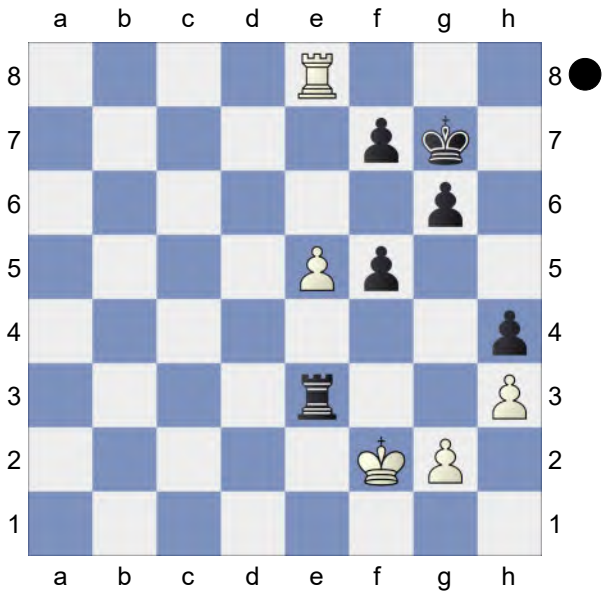
37...Qf4+ 38.Qg3 Rxc4

[38...Qxc4? 39.Qd3-+]

39.Qxf4 Rxf4 KR-KR. Black is a pawn up. **40.Rd8 Re4 41.Re8 h4 42.Kg1 Re3** -2.13/25

[⌓42...g5 -5.19/25 43.Kf1 Ra4]

43.Kf2



Re4 0.01/27

[43...f4!-+ -2.14/25 44.Kg1 Re2]

44.Kf3? -5.92/25

[44.Kg1= 0.01/27 and White stays safe.]

44...g5 45.g3 Inhibits Rf4+. **45...hxg3 46.Kxg3 Re3+ 47.Kg2 f4 48.Kh2 Re2+ 49.Kg1 Kg6** -3.29/27

[⌓49...Re4 -6.91/27 ...Re2 would now be deadly. 50.Kf2 Re3]

50.Rg8+ Kh6? 0.01/25

[50...Kf5-+ -3.40/28 51.Rg7 Kxe5 52.Rxg5+ Ke4]

51.Rh8+!= Kg7 White is now going downhill. **52.Re8 Re3?** 0.01/24

[Black should play 52...Re4-+ -6.86/24 53.Kf2 Re3]

53.Kg2? -6.73/25

[53.Kh2= 0.01/24]

53...Rb3 54.e6? -7.79/25

[54.Rc8 -3.83/24 Rb5 55.Re8]

54...f6-+ 55.h4 g4

[55...gxh4 56.Rc8 Re3 57.Rc4∓]

56.h5 Rb2+ 57.Kf1 Rb1+ 58.Kf2 g3+ 59.Kf3 Rf1+ 60.Kg2 Rf2+ 61.Kg1 Re2 (→ ...f3) **62.Re7+ Kh6 63.Rf7 Rxe6** -15.43/28

[⌓63...Kg5 -#21/30 64.Rg7+ Kh4 *(64...Kxh5? 65.e7-+)* 65.Kf1 f3 *(65...Rxe6 66.h6=)* 66.e7 Rh2 *(66...Kxh5 67.Rxg3 Rxe7 68.Kf2=)* 67.Ke1 f2+ *(67...Kxh5 68.e8Q+ Kh6 69.Qh8#)* 68.Ke2 Rh1 *(68...Kxh5 69.e8Q+ Kh6 70.Qh8#)* 69.e8Q f1Q+ *(69...f1B+? perishes. 70.Kf3+-)* 70.Ke3 Qe1+ Skewer 71.Kd3 Qxe8 72.Rg5 Kxg5 *(72...Rd1+ 73.Kc3 Rc1+ 74.Kd3 Kxg5 75.Kd2 Qe1+ 76.Kd3 Rc3+ 77.Kd4 Qe5#)* 73.Kc3 Qc6+ *(73...Qxh5 74.Kd3 Rc1 75.Ke4 Qe2+ 76.Kd4 g2 77.Kd5 Qe5#)* 74.Kd2 Qf3 *(74...Kxh5 75.Ke2 Kg4 76.Kd2 Kf3 77.Kd3 Rd1#)* 75.Kc2 Rh2+ 76.Kc1 Qh1#]

64.Kg2 Black is clearly winning. **64...Re2+ 65.Kf3 Rf2+ 66.Ke4 g2 67.Rxf6+ Kxh5 68.Rf8** Weighted Error Value: White=0.98/Black=0.70 **68...Kg6**

[And not 68...g1R 69.Rh8+ Kg5 70.Rg8+ Kf6 71.Rxg1=]

0-1

243 **C11**

□ **Lintchevski,Daniil** **2524**

■ **Otdelnov,Kirill** **2320**

RUS-chT Blitz (3.17) 17.10.2024

[Kitty Kat]

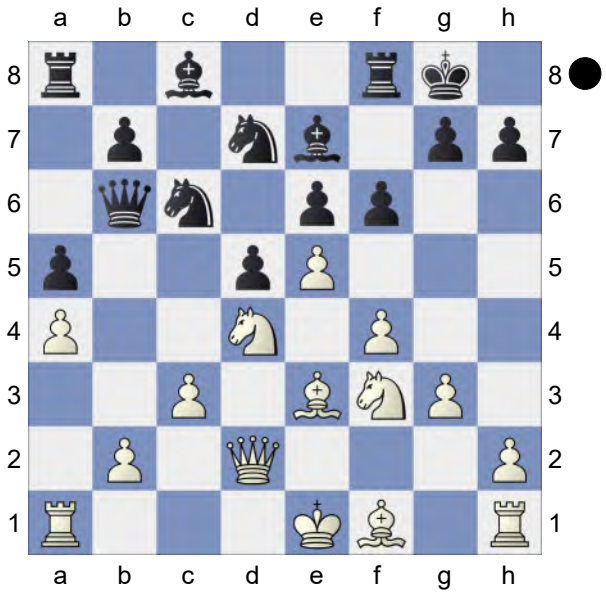
C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.f4 Nc6 7.c3 Be7 8.Nf3 0-0 9.Be3!** is now more promising than 9.g3. im Vergleich zu 9.g3 vielversprechender. **9...a5N**

[9...f6 10.g3 *(10.Qc1 a5 11.g3 a4 12.Bh3 f5 13.0-0 cxd4 14.Nfxd4 Nc5 15.c4 dxc4 16.Qxc4 Na5 17.Qc2 b6 18.Rfd1 Qe8 19.Bg2 Bb7 20.Bxb7 Naxb7 21.b4 axb3 22.axb3 Rxa1 23.Rxa1 Nd8 24.b4 Ne4 1-0 3.Nd2 g6 4.Ngf3 Bg7 5.Be2 e5 (2390)-Dallmann,V (2426) 6/708 Palma de Mallorca 1968 (5))* 10...Qb6 11.Qd2 fxe5 12.dxe5 Rd8 13.Bh3 d4 14.Bf2 d3 15.Nc1 Nf8 16.b3 Qa6 17.a4 b5 18.0-0 Bb7 19.Ra2 c4 *(19...b4 20.c4 Na5 21.Be3 Nxc4 22.bxc4 Qxc4 23.f5 exf5 24.Bxf5 Qd5 25.Bxd3 c4 26.Bb1 Qc6 27.Qe1 Ng6 28.Raf2 Nxe5 29.Ne2 Rd3 30.Ned4 Qd5 31.Bxd3 Nxd3 32.Qd2 Nxf2 33.Rxf2 Rf8 34.h4* 0-1 9.♘d2 a5/ 14.♕c2 ♘gf6 1 (2730)-Winter (2628) Moscow IT 3rd 1936*)* 20.axb5 Qxb5 21.bxc4 Qxc4 N,N-N,N 2009]

10.a4 Qb6 11.Qd2 The position is equal. **11...f6 12.g3** -0.13/18

[12.h4 0.28/18 deserves consideration.]

12...cxd4!= 13.Nexd4



aiming for exf6. **13...Nxd4N** 0.69/22

[13...Bc5! 14.exf6 Nxf6 Threatens to win with ...e5! 15.Bd3 Bd7 16.Qe2 Be8 And now ...Bh5 would win. 17.Nxc6 Strongly threatening Bxc5. Bxe3 18.Ncd4 Bxd4! 19.Nxd4 e5 20.fxe5 Bh5! 21.Qd2 -0.76/22 *(21.Qg2∓ -0.40/25 Rae8 22.0-0 Rxe5 23.Rae1)* 21...Ne4∓ 22.Bxe4 dxe4 23.b3 Qc5 24.Rf1 ½-½ Borisovs,L (2238)-Dzenis,J (2178) LAT 32B email 2018. Repels e3]

[13...Bc5!= -0.24/23 14.exf6 Nxf6]

14.Bxd4± Bc5 15.Bb5 fxe5 16.Nxe5

[16.Bxe5 feels hotter. Nf6 17.Qc2 Ng4 18.Qe2]

16...Nxe5 0.94/28

[16...Bxd4!± 0.58/23 17.Qxd4 *(17.Nxd7 Bxd7 18.Qxd4 Qxd4∓)* 17...Qc7]

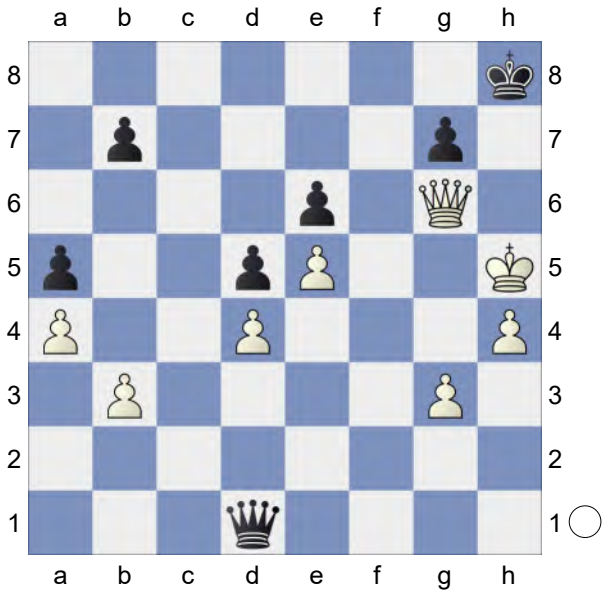
17.fxe5 0.00/28

[White should try 17.Bxe5± 0.94/28 Rf7 *(17...Be3 18.Qd3±)* 18.Qc2]

17...Bxd4= 18.cxd4 Qd8 19.Rf1 Rxf1+ 20.Kxf1 Bd7 21.Bd3 Qb6 22.Kg2 Rf8 23.Bc2 Be8 24.Rf1 Rxf1 25.Kxf1 Bg6 26.Bxg6 hxg6 Endgame. KQ-KQ **27.Qc3 Kh7 28.Kf2 Qa6 29.h4 Qb6 30.b3 Qd8 31.Kg2 Qb6 32.Qd3** h5 is the strong threat. **32...Kh8 33.Kf3 Qb4 34.Kg4 Qe1 35.Qxg6 Qd1+ 36.Kg5 Qd2+ 37.Kh5 Qd1+?** 11.43/26

[37...Qxd4= 0.00/19 38.Qxe6 Qe4]

(Diagram)



38.g4!+- Qxd4 39.Qxe6 Qe4 40.Qf5 Qe3 41.Kg6 White mates. **41...Qh6+ 42.Kf7 d4 43.Qc8+** Weighted Error Value: White=0.08 (flawless) /Black=0.28 (precise)

1-0

244 **C11**

□ **Zhu,Jiner** **2514**

■ **Divya,Deshmukh** **2470**

Nikosia WGP 2025 (7.2) 22.03.2025

[Kitty Kat]

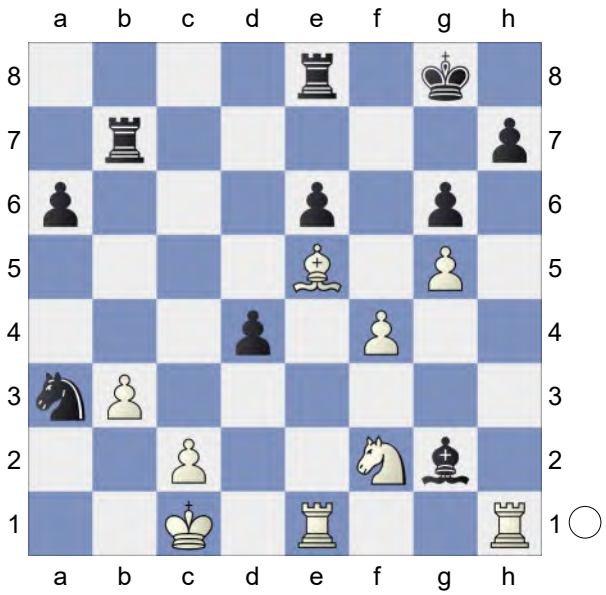
C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Be7 8.Qd2 a6 9.a3 0-0 10.dxc5 Nxc5 11.Bd3N** -0.29/17

[⌓11.Nd4 0.12/18]

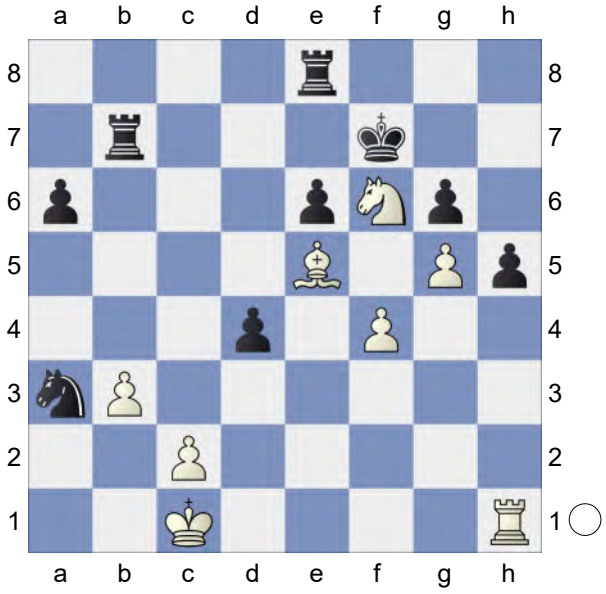
[11.Qf2 b6 12.b4 f6 *(12...Nd7 13.Bd3 f6 14.Qg3 d4 15.0-0-0 dxe3 16.Bxh7+ Kxh7 17.Qh3+ Kg8 18.Qxe6+ Kh8 19.Qxc6 Ra7 20.Nh4 Qe8 21.Nd5 Kh7 22.Nxe7 Qxe7 23.Nf5 Nxe5 24.Nxe7 Nxc6 25.Nxc6 Rc7 26.Nd4 Re8 27.Rd3* Hantel,T (2808)-Moskvichev,V (2654) Berlin

2016 Inf 69 [Nastasio,Davide] 1-0 (38)) 13.bxc5 bxc5 14.Bxc5 Qa5 15.Bd4 fxe5 16.Nxe5 Nxd4 17.Qxd4 Rxf4 18.Nc6 Bc5 19.Qe5 Bd6 20.Qxg7+ Kxg7 21.Nxa5 Be5 22.Kd2 Rf2+ 23.Kd3 Bf4 24.Ne2 Bg5 25.Ng3 Bd7 Tari,A (2596) - Bluebaum,M (2632) Moscow 2017 CBM 181 [Szabo,Krisztian] ½-½]
[11.0-0-0 b5 12.Qf2 Nd7 13.Nd4 Bb7 14.Bd3 b4 15.Nxc6 Bxc6 16.axb4 Bxb4 17.Bd4 Bb5 18.f5 Qg5+ 19.Kb1 Bxd3 20.Rxd3 Bxc3 21.Bxc3 Rac8 22.Rg3 Qh5 23.f6 g6 24.Re1 Rc4 25.b3 Rh4 Ochedzan,T (2276)-Samani,Y (2351) Paphos 2023 1-0 (63)]

11...f5 And now ...d4 would win. **12.exf6 Nxd3+ 13.Qxd3 Bxf6** 0.43/19
[13...Rxf6= 0.00/20 feels stronger. 14.0-0-0 *(14.Ng5 Rf5=)* 14...b5]
14.0-0-0!± b5 15.Ne2 -0.10/18
[15.Bc5± 0.45/20]
15...Bd7 0.60/20
[Black should play 15...b4= -0.10/18]
16.Bc5 Rf7 17.h4 Qc7 0.95/18
[17...Rc8!± 0.51/18]
18.Ng5± Bxg5 19.hxg5 g6 20.Be3 -0.01/21 &Bianco is more active.
[20.Rh4± 0.87/18]
20...b4= 21.a4↑ White has good play.
21...b3 0.88/20
[21...e5= -0.01/21 remains equal. 22.fxe5 *(22.Qxd5 Bg4∓)* 22...Bg4]
22.Qxb3± Na5 1.65/21
[22...Rc8± 0.93/21]
23.Qb6!+-
[23.Qc3?! Qxc3 24.Nxc3 Nc4±]
23...Bxa4 24.Nc3 Threatens to win with Qxc7. **24...Nc4 25.Qxc7** Really sharp!
[Not 25.Qxe6? Re8! 26.Nxd5 *(26.Qxa6? Bc6-+)* 26...Rxe6∓]
25...Rxc7 26.Bd4 Bc6 27.Rde1 Re8 28.b3 Na3 29.Be5 Rb7 30.Nd1 d4 Prevents Ne3. **31.Nf2** 1.13/23
[31.Bxd4+- 1.69/23 aiming for Ne3. Bxg2 32.Rh2]
31...Bxg2±



Hoping for ...Rc8. **32.Ng4! Bxh1 33.Nf6+ Kf7?** 3.11/25 Loses the game.
[33...Kf8± 1.24/25]
34.Rxh1+-
[34.Nxe8 Kxe8 35.Rxh1 d3±]
34...h5

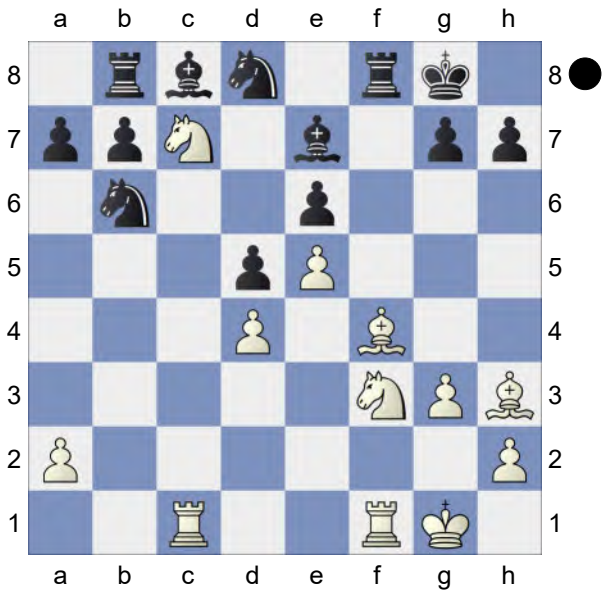


Strongly threatening ...Rc8. **35.gxh6!**
[Inferior is 35.Nxe8 Kxe8 36.Bxd4

Nb5=]
35...Rc8 36.h7 Rxc2+ 1.96/5
[36...Rxb3 3.95/26 was called for. 37.h8N+ Rxh8 38.Rxh8 Rb1+ 39.Kd2 g5 40.Bxd4 *(40.Rh7+ Kg6±)* 40...Rb4]
37.Kd1 Weighted Error Value: White=0. 11 (very precise) /Black=0. 28 (precise)
1-0

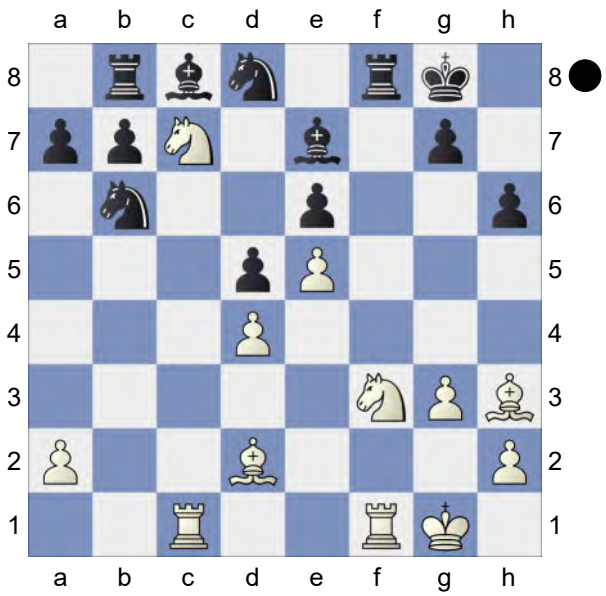
245 **C11**
□ **Anand,Viswanathan** **2500**
■ **Sisniega,Marcel** **2455**
44/341 Philadelphia 1987
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 Qb6 8.Nf3 f6 9.g3 cxd4 10.cxd4 fxe5 11.fxe5** With the idea a3. **11...Bb4+ 12.Nc3! 0-0 13.Bf4! Be7** 0.68/20
[13...Ndxe5!= -0.06/23 14.dxe5 *(14.Bxe5 Bxc3+ 15.bxc3 Nxe5=)* 14...Ba5]
14.Bh3 -0.51/18
[14.a3!± 0.68/20]
[14.Qd2 g5 15.Nxg5 Bxg5 16.Bxg5 Nxd4 17.Bg2 Nxe5 18.0-0-0 Rf2 19.Qxf2 Nb3+ 20.axb3 Qxf2 21.Rd2 Qf5 22.Bh6 Nd3+ 23.Kb1 Nf2+ 0-1 Falke,H (2560)-10.dc5 ♗c5 11. ♗d2 (2665) World Championship 1985 (3.3)]
14...Qxb2∓ 15.Qc1
[15.Bxe6+ Kh8 16.Rc1 *(16.Nxd5? Ndxe5* Discovered Attack *17.dxe5 Bc5-+)* 16...Ndxe5 17.Nxe5 Bxe6 18.Nxc6 Rxf4∓ *(18...bxc6? 19.0-0-+)*]
15...Qxc1+ 16.Rxc1 Nb6N
[16...Ndb8 17.Nb5 Na6 C 11/09-N,N 2000]
17.Nb5 Prevents Ba3. **17...Nd8** 0.55/22
[Black should try 17...h6∓ -0.72/18 Threatens to win with ...g5. 18.0-0 g5]
18.Nc7 -0.42/23
[18.Rc7!± 0.55/22 Bb4+ 19.Ke2]
18...Rb8! 19.0-0 -1.08/21
[19.Ng5∓ -0.61/20]



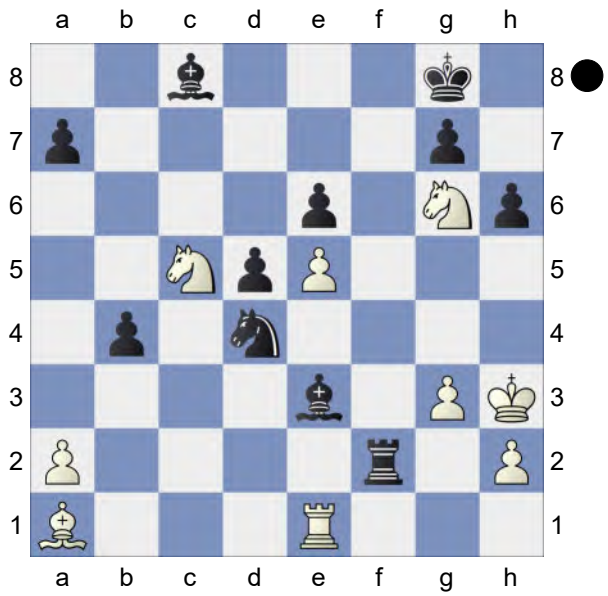
Black converts the advantage convincingly. **19...h6!∓ 20.Bd2** -2.23/20
[20.Bg4∓ -1.08/21]

(Diagram)



20...Nc4!-+ 21.Bc3 -2.50/20
[⌓21.Rcd1 -1.95/21]
21...b5 22.Nh4 Rxf1+ 23.Bxf1 Rb7 24.Na6 Nc6 25.Ng6 Bg5 26.Rd1 -3.57/23
[26.Nf4 -2.29/19 was worth a try.]
26...b4 27.Ba1 Rf7 Black is clearly winning.
[Don't take 27...Be3+ 28.Kh1-+]
28.Nc5 Ne3
[But not 28...Be3+ 29.Kh1-+]
29.Rb1 Nxf1 30.Rxf1 Be3+ 31.Kg2 Nxd4
[31...Bxd4 32.Bxd4 Nxd4 33.Nf4-+]
32.Re1 Rf2+ 33.Kh3

(Diagram)

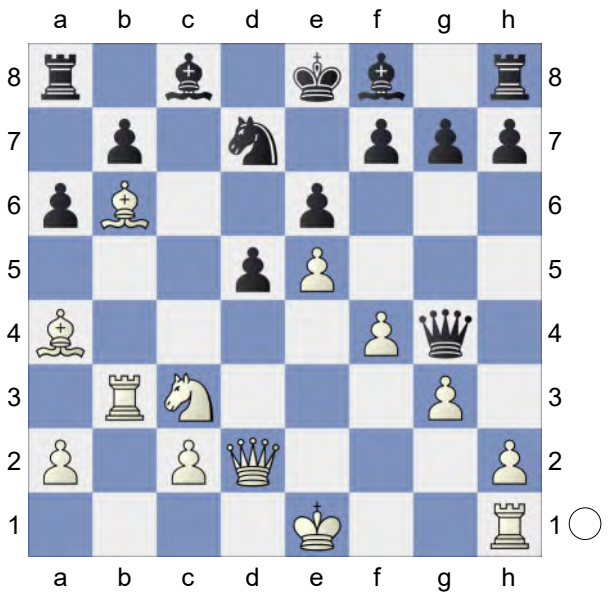


Rxh2+!! Decoy. Weighted Error Value: White=0.42/Black=0.15 (very precise)
0-1

246 **C11**
□ **Budisavljevic,Luka** **2495**
■ **Lomasov,Semen** **2542**
Saint Louis Summer-B (1) 02.08.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Qb6 9.Qd2 Qxb2 10.Rb1 Qa3 11.Bb5! Nxd4 12.Bxd4 a6 13.Rb3** -0.01/21
[13.Bxd7+± 0.73/25 Bxd7 14.Rb3]
13...Qe7= The position is equal. **14.Ba4** White has compensation. **14...Qd8 15.Bb6⇄** White is fighting back
15...Qh4+ 16.g3 Qg4

(Diagram)



17.Ne4! Be7! 18.Nc5 Bxc5 19.Bxc5 b5 20.Ba3 Qb4! would kill now.

[20.h3? Qf5 21.Ba3 Qe4+ *(21...bxa4? 22.0-0-+)* 22.Kf2 Nb6-+ *(22...Qxh1 23.Qb4=; 22...bxa4? 23.Re1-+; 22...Qxa4 23.Bb4-+)*]

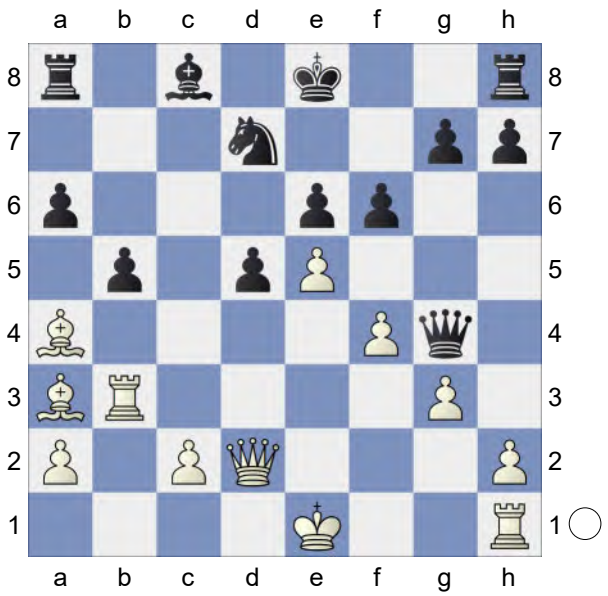
20...f6N 0.58/22

[Vorgänger: 20...Nxe5 21.fxe5 0-0! would now be deadly. *(21.Qb4 Ng6 22.Rc3 Bd7 23.Rc7 e5 24.Bb3 Qf3 25.Rxd7 Qxh1+ 26.Kd2 Qxh2+ 27.Kc3 Rc8+ 28.Kb2 Kxd7 29.Qd6+ Ke8 30.Qxd5 Rc7 31.Qa8+ Kd7 32.Qd5+ Kc8 33.Qa8+ Kd7 34.Qd5+ Ke8* 14) Steinitz-Variante-14 | Steinitz mit 5.f4 + 7.Le*)* 21...Qe4+ 22.Kf2 Qxh1 23.Qg5 Qxh2+ 24.Kf1 Qh1+ 25.Kf2 Qh2+ 26.Kf1 Qh1+ 27.Kf2 Qh2+ ½-½ Tomczak,J (2582)-Lupulescu,C (2614) POL-chT Ekstraliga 2022 (8.5)]

[20...bxa4 21.Qb4]

[20...Nxe5!= -0.01/21 21.fxe5 bxa4 *(21...Qe4+? 22.Kf2-+)*]

(Diagram)



An interesting novelty. Eine interessante Neuerung. **21.Qb4!** -0.01/21 **Kf7= 22.Qe7+ Kg6** Black is weak on the dark squares Loses the game. **23.exf6?** -2.33/21

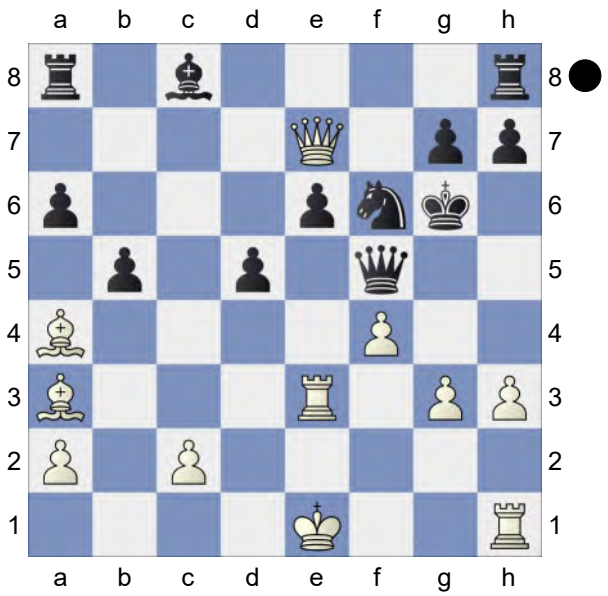
[23.h3= 0.01/21 and White stays safe. Qf5 24.0-0 *(24.exf6? Qe4+ 25.Kf2 Qxc2+ 26.Kg1 Nxf6-+)* 24...Qxh3 *(24...bxa4 25.g4=)* 25.g4 Qxg4+ 26.Kh2 Qe2+ *(26...bxa4? 27.Rg3+-* Pin *)* 27.Kg1 Qg4+ *(27...bxa4 28.Rg3+ Kf5 29.exf6±)*]

23...Nxf6-+

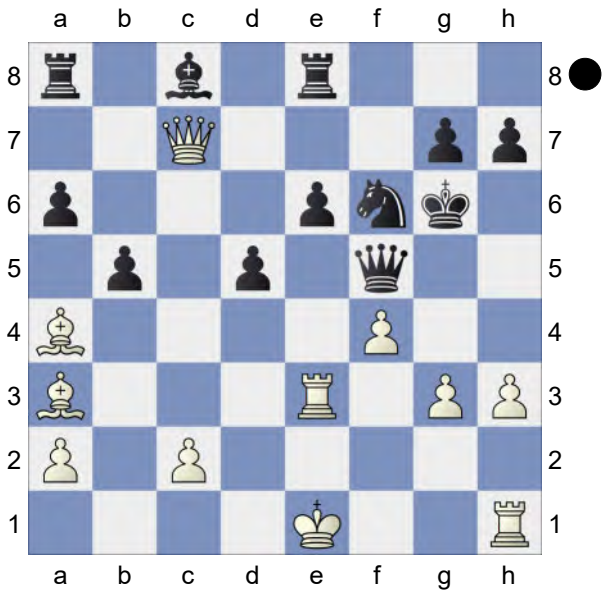
[23...bxa4? 24.Qxg7+ *(24.fxg7 Rg8∓; 24.f5+ exf5 25.Qxg7+ Kh5=)* 24...Kh5 25.Qxh8+-]

24.h3 Qf5 25.Re3

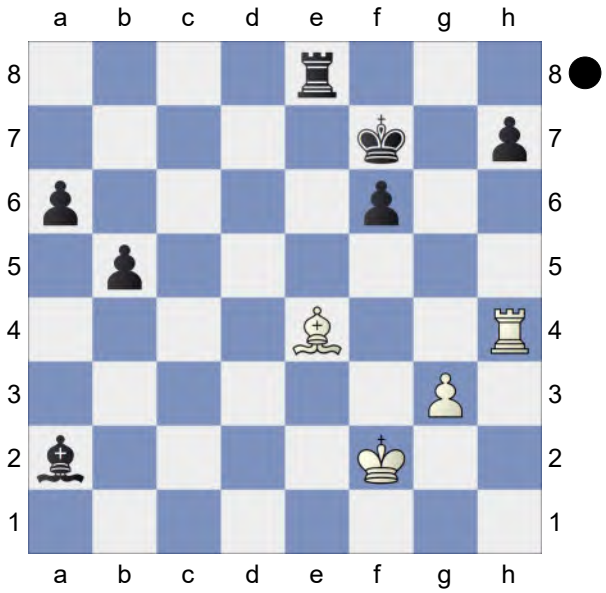
(Diagram)



Dodges Qe4 **25...Re8!**
[25...bxa4 26.Re5 Re8 *(26...Qxc2 27.Rg5+ Kh6 28.Qxg7#)* 27.Qc7±]
26.Qc7



e5!
[26...bxa4 27.g4 *(27.Re5 Bd7±)* 27...Nxg4 28.hxg4+-]
27.0-0? -4.27/23
[27.Bb3 -1.62/20 was the only chance.]
27...exf4
[27...bxa4 28.fxe5 Qe6 *(28...Qxh3 29.exf6* Discovered Attack *Rxe3 30.Qxg7+ Kh5 31.Qxh7+ Kg5 32.Qg7+ Kh5 33.Bd6=)* 29.c4-+]
28.Rxe8 Nxe8 29.Qe7 -4.12/22
[29.Qxf4? Qxf4 *(29...bxa4? 30.Qxa4 Qe6 31.Qf4-+)* 30.Rxf4 bxa4-+]
[29.Qc6+ -2.75/21 is a better defense. Qe6 30.Qxe6+ *(30.Qxa8 Qe3+ 31.Kh1 Qe4+ 32.Kg1 Bxh3-+)* 30...Bxe6 31.Bb3]
29...Qe4 30.Bb3 Bxh3
[30...fxg3? 31.Qf7+ Kh6 32.Bc1+ *(32.Qxd5?* too greedy. *Qe3+ 33.Kh1 Bxh3-+; 32.Bxd5 Qd4+ 33.Kh1 Ra7=)* 32...g5 33.c3+- *(33.Bxd5 Qd4+ 34.Kh1 Ra7±)*]
31.Qxe4+ dxe4 32.Rxf4 Nf6
Dodges Bd5 **33.Kf2 Re8 34.c4** -6.06/20
[⌓34.Bb2 -3.92/22 Kg5 35.Ke3]
34...Be6 Black is clearly winning. **35.Bb2 Bxc4 36.Bc2 Bxa2 37.Bxf6 gxf6 38.Bxe4+** Endgame KRB-KRB. Black is 3 pawns up. **38...Kf7 39.Rh4**



h6! 40.Kf3
[40.Bd3 Re5]
40...Re5 41.Kf4 Bd5 42.Bf5 Be6 43.Bd3 h5 44.Rh1 a5 45.Rc1 Ke7 46.Rc7+ Kd6 47.Rb7 Bd7 48.Bg6 a4

49.Rb6+ Bc6 and ...Kc7 should not be overlooked **50.Rb8** Weighted Error Value: White=0.53/Black=0.19 (very precise) **50...a3**
0-1

247 **C11**
□ **Muzychuk,Mariya** **2490**
■ **Divya,Deshmukh** **2470**
Nikosia WGP 2025 (2.4) 16.03.2025
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.Ne2 Qb6 9.Qc1 cxd4N**
[9...Be7 10.c3 0-0 11.h4 f6 12.h5 h6 13.Rh3 Qa5 *(13...Rf7 14.Qc2 cxd4 15.Bxd4 Qc7 16.exf6 Nxd4 17.Nexd4 Rxf6 18.f5 Nc5 19.Nh4 Rf7 20.Ndf3 e5 21.g4 e4 22.Nd4 Qf4 23.Ng6 Qxg4 24.Qh2 Nd3+ 25.Bxd3 exd3 26.Re3 d2+ 27.Qxd2 Bh4+ 28.Nxh4* Ivic,V (2599)-Di Berardino,D (2472) Budapest 2024 ½-½ (65) *)* 14.Kf2 cxd4 15.cxd4 fxe5 16.fxe5 Ndxe5 17.dxe5 Nxe5 18.Kg1 Ng4 19.Rg3 e5 20.Rxg4 Bxg4 21.Nxe5 Bxh5 22.Nf4 Rac8 23.Qe1 Qxe1 24.Rxe1 Aronian,L (2781)-Bluebaum,M (2670) chess24.com (Internet-rapid) 2021 Chess Informant 149 [Perunovic,Milos] 0-1 (79)]
[9...g5 10.c3 cxd4 11.cxd4 Bb4+ 12.Kf2 f6 13.g3 Rf8 14.Kg2 g4 15.Nh4 Rg8 16.h3 h5 17.hxg4 hxg4 18.Nc3 fxe5 19.fxe5 Ncxe5 20.dxe5 d4 21.Na4 Qa5 22.Qc4 Nxe5 23.Qxd4 Nf3 24.Nxf3 11...Qc7 12.Nbd2 cd4 13.c,4 (2783)-Sethuraman,S (2741) Argentina 2007 Telechess CBM 89 [FS 12/1979 p311] (48)]
[9...f6 10.c3 Be7 11.exf6 Nxf6 12.dxc5 Bxc5 13.Bxc5 Qxc5 14.Ned4 0-0 15.Be2 Bd7 16.0-0 Rae8 17.Qe3 Ng4 18.Qd2 e5 19.fxe5 Ngxe5 20.Nxe5 Nxe5 21.Rxf8+ Rxf8 22.Re1 Nc4 23.Bxc4 dxc4 24.Re3 So,W (2792)-Bluebaum,M (2633) Tbilisi 2017 Chess Informant 149 [Arsovic,Goran] ½-½ (46)]
10.Nexd4 Nxd4 11.Bxd4 Bc5 12.c3 Nb8 13.Kf2 0.19/19
[13.Bxc5± 0.50/19 Qxc5 14.Qd2]
13...Nc6 14.Bxc5 Qxc5+ 15.Qe3 Qxe3+ 16.Kxe3 h5 17.Bd3 Bd7 18.Nd4 Rc8 19.h4 Ke7 20.Rhc1 Rc7 21.Rc2 Rhc8 22.Rac1 Nxd4
[22...Be8 with more complications. 23.b3 g6 24.Kd2 Kf8]
23.cxd4 Rxc2 24.Rxc2 Rxc2 25.Bxc2= Endgame KB-KB **25...g6 26.Kd2** 0.07/27
[26.a4± 0.38/24]
26...Bb5 The position is equal. **27.Kc3** With the idea Kb4. **27...Bf1 28.g3 b6 29.Kb4 Be2 30.a3 Kd8 31.Ba4 Ke7 32.Bc6 Kd8 33.Kc3 Bf1 34.Ba4 Bh3 35.Bd1 Bg4 36.Bc2 Bf5 37.Bd1 Bg4 38.Bc2 Bf5 39.Bd1 Bg4 40.Bc2 Bf5** Weighted Error Value: White=0.05 (flawless) /Black=0.03 (flawless)
½-½

248 **C11**
□ **Suyarov,Mukhammadzokhid** **2477**
■ **Akhmetov,Ayan** **2380**
Abu Dhabi op-A 30th (8) 23.08.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6**

7.f4 Be7 8.Nf3 0-0 9.Be3! is more profitable than 9.g3 at the moment. scheint profitabler als 9.g3.

9...Qb6

[9...f6 10.g3 Qb6 11.Qd2 fxe5 12.dxe5 Rd8 13.Bh3 d4 14.Bf2 d3 15.Nc1 Nf8 16.b3 Qa6 17.a4 b5 18.0-0 Bb7 19.Ra2 b4 *(19...c4 20.axb5 Qxb5 21.bxc4 Qxc4)* 20.c4 Na5 21.Be3 Nxc4 22.bxc4 Qxc4 23.f5 exf5 24.Bxf5 0-1 9.Nd2 a5/ 14. Qc2 Ngf6 15.Bd3 (2730)-Winter (2628) Moscow IT 3rd 1936]

10.Qc1N

[10.Qb3 Na5 11.Qxb6 axb6 #1 Classical Nce2-6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 with 9. Be3]

10...f6 11.g3 cxd4 12.Nexd4 Nxd4

[12...fxe5 13.Nxe6 d4 14.cxd4± *(14.Nxf8 dxe3 15.Nxd7 Bxd7±)*]

[12...Ncxe5 13.fxe5 fxe5 14.Nf5 Bc5]

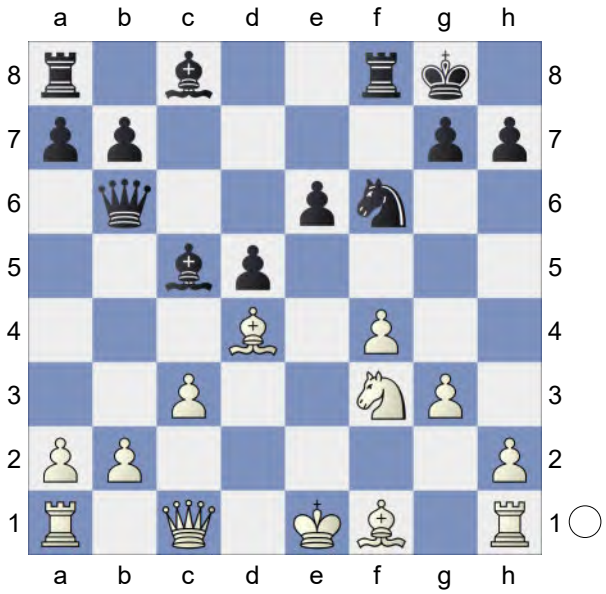
13.Bxd4 Bc5 14.exf6

[14.Be2 keeps more tension. feels hotter. fxe5 15.fxe5 Rxf3 16.Bxf3 Bxd4 17.cxd4 Qxd4 18.Qf4]

14...Bxd4!N

[Vorgänger: 14...Nxf6 0.72/20 14...Bxd4 -0.01

(Diagram)

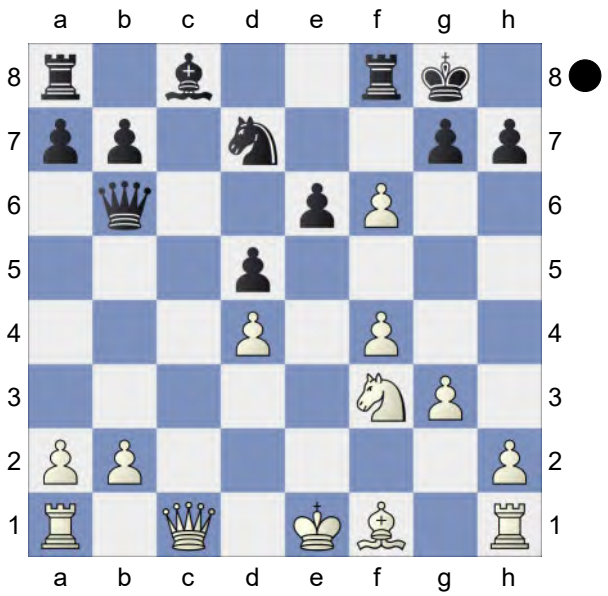


15.Bg2 -0.25/21 *(15.Bxc5!± 0.72/20 Qxc5 16.Bd3)* 15...Bd7 0.53/19 *(15...Bxd4= -0.25/21 16.Nxd4 e5 17.fxe5 Ne4)* 16.0-0 Bb5 1.03/18 *(16...Rac8= 0.26/18* remains equal.*)* 17.Re1± Bxc5 is the strong threat. Rae8 1.39/20 *(⌓17...Bxd4+ 0.71/18 18.Nxd4 Rfe8)* 18.Qe3± Bxd4 19.Qxd4 Qa6 20.a4 Bd3 1-0 Moussard,J (2656)-Garcia Moral Garcia,J (2255) ESP-chT Rapid 2023 (6.4) 21.a5 Be4 22.Bf1 Qd6 23.Nd2 Bf5 24.Qxa7 e5 25.fxe5 Rxe5 26.Rxe5 Qxe5 27.Qd4 Qxd4+ 28.cxd4 Rc8 29.b4 Rc2 30.Nf3 Be4 31.Ne5 Bf5 32.b5 Rc7 33.b6 Rc8 34.a6 bxa6 35.b7 Rb8 1-0 Moussard, J (2656)-Garcia Moral Garcia,J (2255) ESP-chT Rapid 2023 (6.4) 36.Rxa6]

15.cxd4

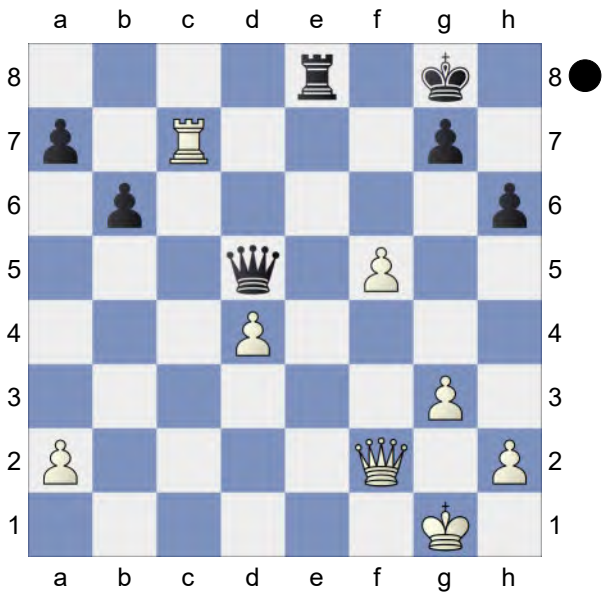
[15.Nxd4 with more complications. e5 16.fxg7 Re8 17.fxe5 Nxe5 18.Kf2]

(Diagram)



fxg7 is the strong threat. **15...Nxf6 16.Bd3 Bd7 17.0-0 Bb5 18.Bxb5 Qxb5 19.Qe3 Ne4 20.Ng5 Qxb2 21.Nxe4**
[21.Rfb1 is more complex. Qc2 22.Rc1 Qb2 23.Nxe4 dxe4 24.Qxe4 Rf7 25.Rcb1]
21...dxe4 22.Qxe4
[22.Rfb1!? Qc2□ 23.Rxb7=]
22...Rac8 23.Rfb1 Qc3 24.Qxe6+
[Much weaker is 24.Qxb7 Qxd4+ 25.Kh1 Rc2∓]
24...Kh8 25.Rd1 Rfe8 26.Qb3 aiming for Qxc3. **26...Qa5 27.Qb2** 0.09/21
[27.Qf7± 0.50/20 is interesting. Re2 28.Rac1 Rg8 29.Rc5]
27...Qd5 28.Rac1 Rxc1 The position is equal. **29.Rxc1=** Endgame. KQR-KQR Endgame KQR-KQR. White is a pawn up. **29...h6 30.Qf2 b6** Dodges Rc5 Prevents Rc5.
[30...Re4 simplifies 31.Rc8+ Kh7 32.Rc5 Qxd4 33.Qxd4 Rxd4 34.Ra5 a6]
31.f5 Kg8 32.Rc7

(Diagram)



Strongly threatening f6! **32...Rf8 33.Rxa7 Rxf5 34.Qe3 Qc6** ...Rb5 would now be deadly. ...Rb5 is the strong threat.
[34...Qc4!? 35.Qb3□ Qxb3 36.axb3 Rb5=]
35.Ra3 Rf8 36.Rc3 Qa4 37.Qd2 Inhibits Qd1+. **37...Qb5 38.Rc1** Wards off Qf1+ Prevents Qf1+ **38...Qd5** The position is equal. **39.Re1 Kh8 40.Re2** Weighted Error Value: White=0.06 (flawless) /Black=0.06 (flawless) **40...Rd8** Weighted Error Value: White=0.05 (flawless) /Black=0.05 (flawless)
½-½

249 **C11**
□ **Salemgareev,Tagir** **2465**
■ **Volkov,Sergey** **2456**
Cheliabinsk Kurnosov Memorial Rapid (..
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 Be7 8.Nf3 0-0 9.g3 b5 10.Bg2**
[10.a3 a5 11.Bg2 a4 *(11...b4*

12.axb4 cxb4 13.0-0 Nb6 14.g4 a4 15.cxb4 Nxb4 16.Rf2 f6 17.exf6 Bxf6 18.g5 Be7 19.Nc3 Bd6 20.Ne5 Ba6 21.Bh3 Qe7 22.Nxa4 Nxa4 23.Rxa4 Bxe5 24.fxe5 Rxf2 25.Kxf2 Rc8 26.Kg3 0-1 Lauron,P (2245)-12.♗b5 ♗b5 13.ef5 ♖b8_1 (2480) 102/181 Wijk aan Zee 2008 (7)*)* 12.dxc5 Nxc5 13.Ned4 Na5 14.0-0 Bd7 15.Qe2 Nc4 16.Be3 Qc7 17.Rad1 Ne4 18.Rde1 Rae8 19.Kh1 f6 20.exf6 Bxf6 21.Bc1 h6 22.Nc2 Be7 23.Ne3 Bd6 24.Nh4 Rf7 ½-½ Lauron,P (2302)-10.dc5 ♗c5 11.♗d2 (2631) World U20-ch22 Belfort 1983 (4)]

10...b4 11.f5N

[11.0-0 bxc3 12.bxc3 Rb8 #3 Classical Nce2-6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 with 9.g3]

11...exf5 Black is better. **12.Nf4** -1.10/23

[12.0-0∓ -0.65/19 should be considered.]

12...Nb6 -0.42/21

[12...Ba6∓ -1.10/23 13.Nxd5 bxc3]

13.h4 h6 14.Nh5 -1.51/20

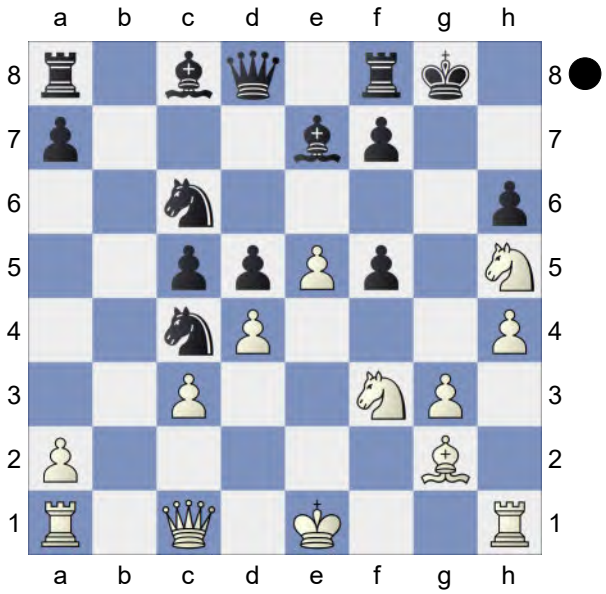
[14.cxb4∓ -0.55/22 Nxb4 15.dxc5 Bxc5 16.a3]

14...bxc3∓ 15.bxc3 Nc4 -0.83/18

[Black should try 15...cxd4 -1.44/21 16.cxd4 Bb4+ 17.Kf2 Nc4]

16.Bxh6 -2.20/18 **gxh6-+ 17.Qc1**

(Diagram)



Prevents Ne3 **17...Kh7 18.Ng5+ Bxg5**

[18...hxg5? 19.Nf6+ Bxf6 20.hxg5+ Kg7 21.gxf6++-]

19.hxg5 Strongly threatening Nf6+.

19...Qxg5 -1.36/19

[19...cxd4 20.g6+ Kxg6 21.Nf4+ Kh7 22.Ne6=]

[19...N4xe5-+ -2.66/22 ...Nd3+ would now be deadly. 20.dxe5 Nxe5 *(20...hxg5? 21.Nf6+* Discovered Attack (Double Check), Double Attack *Kg6 22.Rh5+-)*]

20.Qxg5 -2.22/22

[20.Bxd5∓ -1.36/19 was called for. Qxc1+ 21.Rxc1]

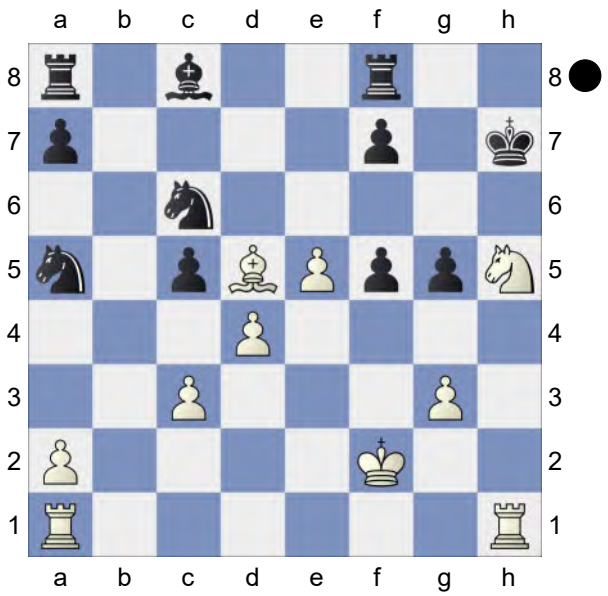
20...hxg5 21.Bxd5 N4a5 0.00/27

[Better is 21...cxd4-+ -2.17/22 Hoping for ...N6xe5! 22.Nf6+ *(22.Bxc6 Rb8∓)* 22...Kg6 23.Bxc6 Rb8 24.cxd4 Rd8]

22.Kf2

[22.Nf6+? Kg6 23.g4 *(23.Rh7? Be6-+)* 23...cxd4 *(23...fxg4? 24.0-0-+)* 24.cxd4 Rb8-+ *(24...fxg4? 25.0-0-+)*]

(Diagram)

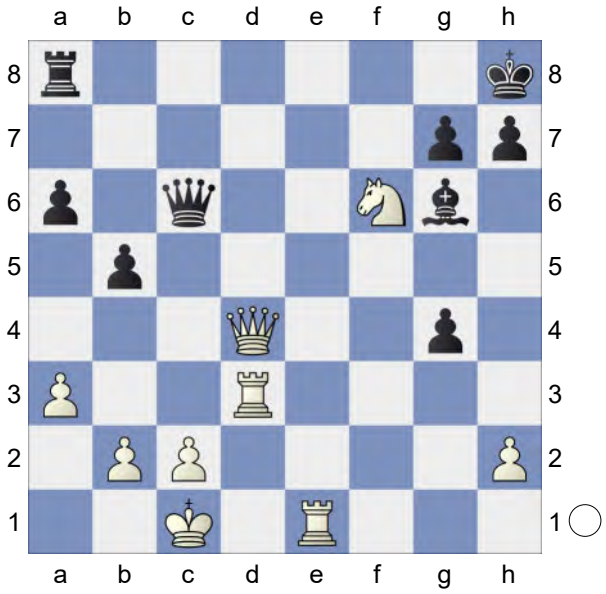


Nf6+ is the strong threat. The position is equal. **22...Rb8 23.Nf4+! Kg7 24.Nh5+! Kg6 25.Nf4+! Kg7!**
[Of course not 25...gxf4?! 26.gxf4 Rb2+ *(26...cxd4 27.Rag1#)* 27.Kf3±]
26.Nh5+! Kg6 27.Nf4+! Kg7!
[27...gxf4 28.gxf4 Rb2+ *(28...cxd4 29.Rag1#)* 29.Kf3+-]
28.Nh5+! Kg6 29.Nf4+! And White is the lucky defender. Weighted Error Value: White=0.23 (precise) /Black=0.32
½-½

250 **C11**
□ **Golubev,Mikhail** **2461**
■ **Buchenau,Frank** **2222**
Titled Tuesday intern op 14th Feb Early ..
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.Qd2 b5 9.a3 Qa5** now scores much better than the old 9... Qb6. punktet besser als das ältere 9... Db6. **10.dxc5 Bxc5 11.Bxc5 Nxc5** The position is equal. **12.Nd4 Qb6 13.Nxc6 Qxc6 14.Qd4**
[14.b4 Ne4 15.Nxe4 dxe4 16.Rc1 Bb7 17.c4 bxc4 18.Rxc4 Qb6 19.Be2 Rd8 20.Qc3 0-0 21.Rc5 Rd5 Dominguez Perez,L (2677)-Quesada Perez,Y (2515) (ch-m/1) 100/(106) 2007]
14...0-0 15.Bd3N Against Ne4
[15.Be2 Ne4 16.Nxe4 dxe4 17.c4 bxc4 18.Rc1 Bb7 19.Rxc4 Qe8 20.0-0 Bd5 21.Rc7 g6 22.Rfc1 a5 23.Qc5 Qb8 24.b4 axb4 25.axb4 Ra2 26.Bf1 Rb2 27.b5 h5 28.f5 gxf5 29.Qe3 Qd8 0-1 Ochedzan,T (2208)-Karolczuk,I (2324) POL-ch Blitz U18 2023 (7)]
15...f6N 0.67/20
[Vorgänger: 15...Bd7 16.b4 Nxd3+ 17.cxd3 a5 18.0-0 axb4 19.axb4 Rfc8 Hoping for ...Rxa1. 20.Rac1 Qb7 21.Kf2 Be8 0.50/19 ½-½ (47) Robson,N (2617)-Pospisil,L (2502) ICCF email 2018 *(21...h6= 0.13/19)*]
[15...Qb6= 0.27/20]
16.exf6± Rxf6 17.0-0-0 -0.01/18 White is more active.
[17.b4± 0.65/20 Nxd3+ 18.cxd3]
17...Bd7= 18.Rhe1 Be8 19.g4 Bg6 0.82/21
[19...Rc8= 0.29/20]
20.f5!± Nxd3+ 1.54/21
[20...exf5± 0.50/20 21.Bxf5 *(21.Qxd5+ Qxd5 22.Nxd5 Nxd3+ 23.Rxd3 Rf7±; 21.Nxd5?* perishes. *Nb3+ 22.Kb1 Nxd4-+)* 21...Bxf5 22.gxf5 Rxf5]
21.Rxd3
[Don't play 21.Qxd3?! Bf7±]
A mistake that costs the game. **21...exf5** 7.71/22
[21...Bf7± 1.36/21]
22.Nxd5+- Ne7+ would now be deadly.

22...Kh8 Black is weak on the dark squares **23.Nxf6 fxg4**



24.Qd8+!! Rxd8
[24...Be8 25.Rxe8+]
25.Rxd8+ White mates. **25...Be8**
26.Rexe8+ Back Rank **26...Qxe8**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.08 (flawless) /Black=1.16 **27.Rxe8#**
1-0

251 **C11**
□ **Teplitsky,Yan** **2453**
■ **Gretarsson,Helgi Ass** **2459**
Mermaid Beach Club (7) 27.01.1999
[Ribli,Zoltan]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 Das ist eigentlich eine Sizilianische Drachenvariante, aber mit vertauschten Farben. Schwarz steht stark im Zentrum, während Weiß die Initiative am Damenflügel hat. **6.c3 Nc6** Schwarz muß so spielen, denn nach 6... ♗e6 kommt Weiß mit 7.0-0 und 8.d4.
7.f4 b5 8.a3 Dieser Zug bietet Weiß keinen Eröffnungsvorteil. Seine Alternativen 9.a3, 9.d3, 9.b3 sind alle gefährlicher für Schwarz. **8...a5** Jetzt ist das Feld b4 eine ewige Schwäche im weißen Lager.
[8...Qb6 9.Nf3 Be7 *(9...a5 10.f5 cxd4 11.fxe6 fxe6 12.cxd4 Be7∓ 13.Nf4!?=* Bareev,E *Nf8 14.Bd3; 9...c4 10.g4 f6 11.Bh3 fxe5 12.fxe5 Be7 13.Nf4 Nf8 14.Nh5 Rg8 15.0-0 Bd7 16.Bg5 Qd8 17.Qd2)* 10.f5 cxd4 11.cxd4 b4 0-1 Ribeiro,R-Joshi,S/Ubeda 1998/CBM 62 ext (27) 12.fxe6 fxe6 13.Nf4 bxa3 14.bxa3 0-0 15.Bd3!? Nxd4?! 16.Nxd4 Nxe5 17.Be3 Qa5+]
9.Nf3 Ba6
[9...b4 ½-½ Skembris,S-Kotronias,V/Greece (ch) 1994/Inf 60/[Skembris,S] (39) 10.axb4 cxb4 11.f5 exf5 12.Nf4 Nb6 13.Bb5 Bb7 14.e6]
10.h4 In einigen Varianten kann Weiß ♗xb6 spielen oder besser auch ♘c3-e4-♘c5.
[10.dxc5 Bxc5!? 11.b4?! Ba7! 12.Ned4 Nxd4 13.cxd4 Nb6∓ 14.a4]
10...b4 Logischerweise tauscht Schwarz seinen bekanntermaßen schlechten Springer b6. **11.h5 Be7 12.f5 exf5**
13.Ng3= Weiß hat etwas Initiative am Damenflügel, aber sein Feld b4 ist schwach.
[13.Nf4 bxc3 14.bxc3 Bxf1 15.Kxf1 ½-½ Hanken,J-Waitzkin,J/US National op 1994/EXT 97 (47) Nb6 16.Qd3]
13...Bxf1 14.Kxf1 Nf8
[14...g6∓
A) 15.e6 fxe6 16.hxg6
A1) 16...Bf6 17.Rxh7 Rxh7 18.gxh7 bxc3 *(18...Qe7 19.axb4 cxb4 20.Ng5)* 19.bxc3 Qe7 20.Qe2;
A2) 16...Nf6 17.Ng5 bxc3 18.bxc3 Qd6;
B) 15.hxg6 fxg6

B1) 16.Nxf5= gxf5 17.Ng5 Nf8 *(17...Bxg5 18.Qh5+ Kf8 19.Bxg5 Ne7 20.e6* ½-½ Vehreschild,A-Vannerom,R/Huy 1993/EXT 97 (37) *Qe8 21.Qh6+ Kg8 22.exd7 Qxd7 23.Bf6)* 18.Qh5+ Ng6 19.Qxg6+ hxg6 20.Rxh8+ Kd7 21.Rxd8+ Rxd8;

B2) 16.dxc5]

15.Nxf5 Ne6 Schwarz übt positionellen Druck aus, aber der weiße Springer findet gute Felder. **16.h6 g6 17.Ng7+ Kf8 18.axb4□** Nach diesem Zug wird der weiße d-Bauer schwach, aber Weiß kann diese Befreiungsmöglichkeit vermeiden, sonst kommt Schwarz mit ... ♖e8, ... ♖a6, ... ♖ae6 und der e-Bauer bleibt langfristig schwach. **18...cxb4**

[18...axb4]

19.Kg1

[19.Nxe6+ fxe6 20.g3 *(20.Be3 Kf7?! 21.Qd2 Rf8 22.Ng5+? Kg8+ 23.Kg1 bxc3 24.bxc3 Qd7)* 20...Kf7∓ 21.Kg2= Rf8 22.Be3 Kg8= 23.Rf1∓]

19...Qd7∓

[19...Nxg7 20.hxg7+ Kxg7 21.Bh6+± Kg8?! 22.Qd2 bxc3 23.bxc3]

20.Nxe6+ Qxe6?! Dieser Zug ist mir zu direkt und nach Vereinfachungen ist es leichter für Weiß, seine Stellung zu verteidigen. **21.Bg5 Ke8**

[21...f6?? 22.exf6-+ Bxf6 23.Bxf6= Qxf6!?↑ Nach diesem Zug hat der schwarze Läufer Probleme. Weiß kann eventuell ♖b3 spielen, während es für Schwarz nicht einfach ist, sich zu befreien. 24.cxb4 Nxb4 25.Ne5]

22.Qd2= Kd7 23.Rf1 Rhf8

[23...Raf8=]

24.Bxe7 Qxe7 25.Ng5 bxc3 26.bxc3± f6 27.exf6 Rxf6 28.Rxf6 Weiß hat gut zentralisierte Figuren und der Läufer auf b4 steht passiv. **28...Qxf6 29.Nxh7 Qf5 30.Ng5**

[30.Rh3-+ a4 31.Rf3-+ Qb1+ 32.Rf1?! Das wäre zum Vorteil des Weißen, denn Schwarz muß, wenn möglich, Bauern tauschen. Qb3!? 33.Nf8+]

30...a4 31.h7?! Rh8 32.Kh2 Na5

[32...Nd8= 33.Kg3? Ne6! 34.Nxe6 Qxe6 35.Qf4 a3 36.Ra1 Rxh7 37.Rxa3 Qe1+ 38.Qf2]

33.Kg3 a3 34.Qf4 Theoretisch steht Weiß in diesem Endspiel besser, denn er kann ♘c4 mit ausgezeichneter Blockadestellung spielen, aber mir scheint dieser Vorteil nicht einfach, wenn überhaupt, verwertbar zu sein. **34...Qxf4+ 35.Kxf4 Rf8+ 36.Kg4 Nb3 37.Nf7 a2 38.h8Q Rxh8 39.Nxh8 a1Q 40.Rxa1 Nxa1= 41.Nxg6** Schwarz kann mit seinem König nirgens eindringen, so daß Weiß mit dem Königsmanöver Richtung Damenflügel beginnt. **41...Nc2 42.Nf4 Kd6 43.Kh5 Ne3 44.g4 Nd1 45.Ne2 Ne3 46.g5 Ke6 47.Kg6 Ng2 48.Kh7 Ne3 49.g6 Kf5** Und hier wurde remis gegeben. Theoretisch steht Weiß etwas besser, aber er kommt nicht voran. **50.g7 Ng4= 51.g8Q Nf6+ 52.Kh8 Nxg8 53.Kxg8 Ke4± 54.Kf7**

½-½

252 **C11**

□ **Jakubowski,Krzysztof** **2443**

■ **Bluebaum,Matthias** **2640**

Titled Tuesday intern op 24th Sep Early ..

[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6**

7.f4 Be7 8.Nf3 0-0 9.a3 9.Be3 is the modern continuation. 9.Le3 ist die moderne Fortsetzung. **9...a5** 0.25/23
[9...f6 -0.14/24 should be considered.]
10.Be3N -0.31/21
[10.g3 cxd4 11.cxd4 f6 12.Bh3 fxe5 13.dxe5 Qb6 14.Bxe6+ *(14.Nc3 Ndxe5 15.fxe5 Nxe5 16.Bg2 Bd7 17.Rf1 Nc4 18.Rb1 Bf6 19.Qd3 Rac8 20.Ng5 Bxg5 21.Bxg5 Rxf1+ 22.Bxf1 Rf8 23.Qe2 Rf5 24.Bf4 g5 25.Nxd5 exd5 26.Bb8 Rf8* Black'S Centre Busting-Nxe5 Sacrifice 2008 *)* 14...Kh8 15.Qxd5 Nc5 16.Bxc8 Rd8 17.Qxd8+ Qxd8 18.Bf5 Nd3+ 19.Kf1 Ndxe5 20.Kg2 Nxf3 21.Kxf3 Qd5+ 22.Be4 Qh5+ 23.g4 Qh3+ 24.Ng3 Nd4+ 0-1 3.Nd2 g6 4.Ngf3 Bg7 5.Be2 e5 (2561)-Bruce,R (2571) chess.com (ol-rapid) 147/43 2020 0-1 Baramidze,D-Prusikin,M German Ch., Koenigshofen (Game 28) 2007 25.Kf2 Qxg4 26.Be3 Bh4 27.Rae1 Nf5 28.Bxf5 Qxf5 29.Re2 Qh3 30.Rg1 Qxh2+ 31.Kf3 Qh3 32.Bf2 h5 33.Re5 Qg4+ 34.Kg2 Bxg3 35.Bxg3 h4 36.Rg5 Qe2+ 37.Bf2 Rc8 38.Re1 Qxb2 39.Kg1 Rc1 1-0 Baramidze,D (2619)-Ruck,R (2572) 121/161 Ruzomberok 2014 0-1 3.Nd2 g6 4.Ngf3 Bg7 5.Be2 e5 (2561)-Bruce,R (2571) chess.com (ol-rapid) 147/43 2020]
[10.h4 f6 11.Neg1 cxd4 12.cxd4 Qb6 13.Bd3 fxe5 14.fxe5 Ndxe5 15.dxe5 Nxe5 16.Bc2 Bd7 17.Qe2 Rac8 18.Bxh7+ Kxh7 19.Qxe5 Bd6 20.Be3 Qb3 21.Nd2 Rf1+ 22.Kxf1 Qd3+ 23.Kf2 Bxe5 24.Ngf3 Bxb2 0-1 Olsson,S (2582)-Kavakul,M (2731) (ol) 50/544 Novi Sad 1990 (2.4)]
[10.Ng3= 0.25/23]
[10.Neg1 cxd4 11.cxd4 Nb6 12.Bd3 f5 13.Ne2 a4 14.Nc3 Bd7 15.0-0 Na5 16.Bc2 Qe8 17.Kh1 Nac4 18.Rg1 Rc8 19.Qe1 Kh8 20.Rb1 Qd8 21.g4 Be8 22.gxf5 exf5 23.Ng5 Bh5 24.Qg3 Bxg5 0-1 Paehtz,E-Peng,Z Ekaterinburg (Game 29) 2006]
10...b5 0.25/19
[10...a4∓ -0.31/21]
11.Ng3= White has an edge. **11...Rb8** 0.74/19
[11...Qb6= 0.13/21]
12.Bd3± b4 13.h4N 0.21/20 Black must now prevent Bxh7+!
[Vorgänger: 13.axb4 axb4 0.84/21 *(13...cxd4± 0.41/24 14.Nxd4 Nxd4)* 14.h4 0.26/21 Bxh7+! is the strong threat. *(14.0-0± 0.84/21)* 14...h6 1.00/20 *(14...f5!= 0.26/21* remains equal.*)* 15.f5 -0.09/20 *(15.Nh5± 1.00/20;* White should try *15.0-0± 1.00/19)* 15...bxc3= 16.bxc3 aiming for 0-0. And now fxe6 would win.
A) 16...cxd4= -0.12/19 17.cxd4 Bb4+ 18.Kf2 *(18.Kf1 f6 19.fxe6 Nb6)* 18...Ne7;
B) 16...f6? 3.11/21 17.fxe6+- aiming for 0-0. Ndxe5 2.13/23 *(17...fxe5± 1.53/21 18.exd7 Bxd7)* 18.dxe5 fxe5 19.Ng5? -0.29/20 ;½-½ Martinez Romero,M (2403)-Levine,J (2372) San Jose 1000 GM 07 2024 (5) *(19.Bf5!+- 2.93/18)*]
[13.0-0± 0.63/22]
13...f5!= 14.exf6 Nxf6 15.axb4 axb4 0.54/19
[15...e5!= -0.01/20 16.dxe5 *(16.bxc5? e4-+; 16.Nxe5 Nxe5 17.dxe5 Ng4=)* 16...Ng4]
16.0-0 0.10/21

[16.Ne5!± 0.54/19 was preferable.
A) 16...Qe8 17.0-0 *(17.dxc5 bxc3 18.bxc3 Nxe5∓* Remove Defender *)*;
B) 16...Nxe5 17.dxe5]

16...bxc3 17.bxc3 h6? 1.86/18
[17...cxd4!= 0.22/18 and Black stays safe. remains equal. 18.cxd4 *(18.Nxd4 Qe8)* 18...Bd7]

18.Ne5+-
[18.dxc5?! Ng4 *(18...Qc7±)* 19.Qd2 Qc7=]

18...Qc7 19.Rc1? 0.28/19
[19.dxc5 Nxe5 20.fxe5 Qxe5∓]
[19.Ng6+- 2.13/19]

19...Rb2 1.47/20
[19...c4!= 0.28/19 20.Bc2 Bd6 *(20...Ba3)*]

20.Qa4? -1.15/23
[20.dxc5 Nxe5 21.fxe5
A) 21...Qxe5? 22.Bf4+-;
B) 21...Bxc5 22.Bxc5 *(22.Bd4±)* 22...Qxc5+ 23.Kh2=;
C) 21...Nd7∓]
[20.Nh5± 1.47/20 keeps the pressure on.]

20...Bd7 0.11/19
[Black should play 20...Nxe5∓ -1.15/23 21.fxe5 Ng4 22.Rxf8+ Bxf8]

21.Qa1 -0.70/20
[21.dxc5? too greedy. Nxe5 22.c6 Nxd3-+]
[Better is 21.Nxd7= 0.11/19 Nxd7 22.Qd1]
[21.Qd1= 0.00/20]

21...Rfb8∓ 22.Ng6 -1.13/21 Against Nxe5 Inhibits Nxe5.
[22.Rb1∓ -0.40/18 Rxb1 23.Rxb1]

22...Ng4∓ 23.Rfe1 -4.87/20
[23.Rce1∓ -0.91/20]

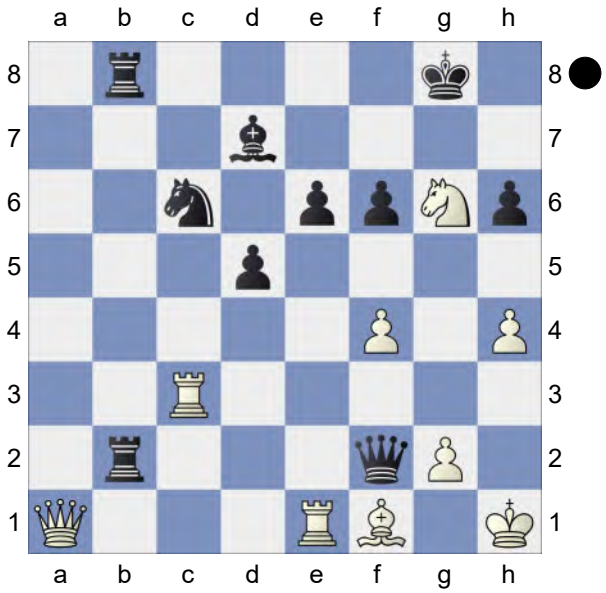
23...Bf6 24.Nf1? -5.18/20
[24.Nh5 -3.22/17 is the only way for White. Be8 *(24...cxd4 25.cxd4 Qb6 26.Nxf6+ gxf6 27.Rc3∓)* 25.dxc5]

24...Nxe3? -1.91/21
[Don't do 24...cxd4 -5.18/20 25.cxd4 Nxe3 Remove Defender *(25...Qb6 26.Ne5 Ncxe5 27.dxe5 Nxe3 28.Rxe3 Bxh4 29.Kh1)* 26.Nxe3 R8b6 *(26...Bxd4? 27.Qa4-+)* 27.Qa8+ Rb8]
[24...Be8-+ -3.30/22 is more deadly. Hoping for ...Nxe3. 25.Ne5 Ncxe5 26.dxe5 Bxh4]

25.Nxe3-+ cxd4 Black is more active.

26.Ng4 dxc3 27.Nxf6+ Remove Defender **27...gxf6 28.Rxc3 Qb6+ 29.Kh1?** -2.85/20
[29.Kh2∓ -0.92/21]

29...Qf2 30.Bf1 -5.86/19
[30.Rg1∓ -1.78/20 nothing else works. was called for.]



30...Nd4!-+ 31.Rce3 -8.53/21
[⌓31.h5 -4.76/19 is a better defense. Be8 32.Qc1]

31...Nf5 32.Rf3 Ng3+ 33.Rxg3 Qxg3 34.Ne7+ Kf7 35.Qa7 Weighted Error Value: White=1.83/Black=0.53 **35...Qxe1** -36.26/37 Weighted Error Value: White=0.93/Black=0.33

[⩲35...Rxg2 -#7/16 36.Bxg2 Qxe1+ *(36...Rb2 is a self mate. 37.Qg1 Qxh4+ 38.Qh2 Qxe1+ 39.Qg1 Qh4+ 40.Qh2 Rb1+ 41.Bf1 Rxf1+ 42.Kg2 Rf2+ 43.Kh1 Qxh2#)* 37.Qg1 Qxh4+ 38.Qh2 Rb1+ 39.Bf1 Rxf1+ 40.Kg2 Rf2+ 41.Kh1 Qxh2#]

0-1

253 **C11**

□ **Molner,Mackenzie** **2438**

■ **Akobian,Varuzhan** **2614**

US op 121st Cherry Hill (9) 08.08.2021

[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 Kortschnoj,Viktor: 'Korchnoi, V: 'Inf 38/400'' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.a3 Be7** 0.63/18

[8...cxd4= 0.12/17 9.Nxd4 Be7]

9.dxc5± Nxc5 0.91/18

[9...Bxc5± 0.46/21 10.Bxc5 Nxc5]

10.b4± Nd7 White is slightly better.

11.Bd3 Qc7 1.18/18

[⩲11...0-0 0.72/19]

[11...b5 12.0-0 0-0 13.Nd4 Nxd4 14.Bxd4 Nb8 15.Bf2 f5 16.Ne2 Bd7 17.Nd4 Nc6 18.Nxc6 Bxc6 19.Bd4 Rf7 20.g4 g6 21.gxf5 gxf5 22.Kf2 Rg7 23.Rg1 Rg6 24.Qh5 Be8 25.Ke3 Bf8 26.c3 1-0 Santos Latasa, J (2612)-Korobov,A (2666) Prague Challengers 6th 2024 (8)]

12.Ne2 Nb6 13.0-0 Nc4N

[13...Bd7 14.Qe1 Na4 15.Qg3 g6 16.Ng5 Nd8 17.Nd4 Nc3 18.Kh1 Nb5 19.Nb3 Nc3 20.Bc5 Bxc5 21.Nxc5 Na4 22.Nxd7 Qxd7 23.c4 h6 24.Nxf7 Nxf7 25.cxd5 0-0-0 26.Bxg6 Rhg8 27.f5 Qxd5 28.Rac1+ 1-0 Kortschnoj,V-Keller,D Schweiz (ch) 38/400 1984]

14.Bf2 0.47/18

[Better is 14.Bxc4± 1.15/20 dxc4 15.Bc5]

14...Bd7 0.96/19

[14...Nb2± 0.47/18 15.Qd2 0-0]

15.Ra2 0.40/22

[15.Qb1± 0.96/19]

15...f6 16.Ned4 Black must now prevent Nxc6. **16...Nxd4** 0.89/21

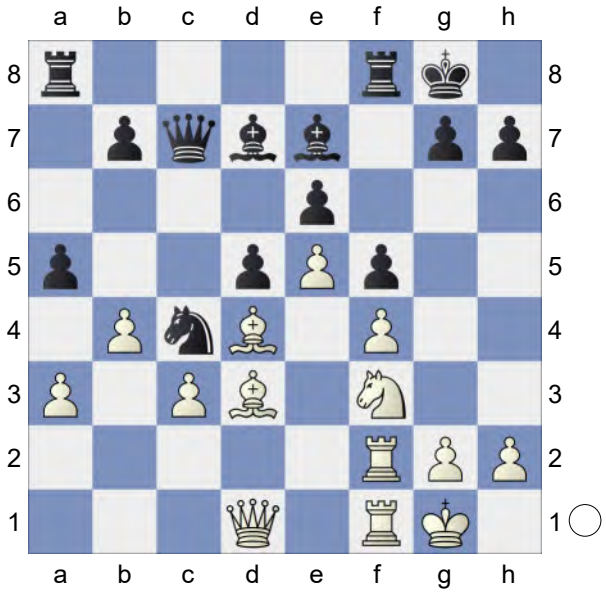
[16...fxe5± 0.32/21 17.Nxc6 Bxc6]

17.Bxd4 f5 18.c3 a5! 19.Raf2 0.10/18

[19.Qe2± 0.87/17]

19...0-0 1.15/20

[19...g6!= 0.10/18 remains equal.]



20.g4! fxg4 Discovered Attack **21.Ng5?** -2.46/19

[21.Ne1± 1.34/19 keeps the pressure on.]

Black keeps a firm grip on the game.

21...Bxg5-+

[21...Nxa3 22.Bxh7+ *(22.Qxg4 Bxg5 23.fxg5 Rxf2+-)* 22...Kh8 23.Bg6 *(23.Qxg4 b6+-)* 23...Bxg5 24.fxg5 Rxf2 25.Rxf2+-]

22.fxg5 Rxf2

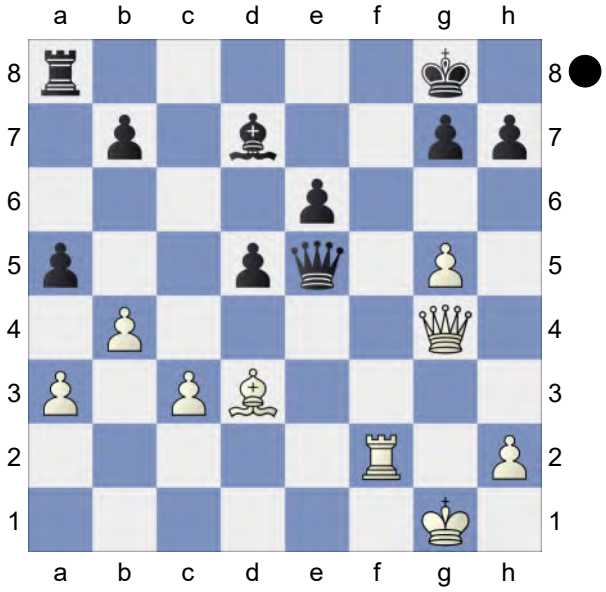
[22...Nxa3? 23.Rxf8+ *(23.Qxg4*

Rf5+-) 23...Rxf8 24.Bxh7+ *(24.Qxg4 Rxf1+ 25.Kxf1 axb4∓)* 24...Kxh7 25.Rxf8+-]

23.Rxf2 Nxe5

[23...Nxa3? 24.Qxg4 g6 25.Rf6+-]

24.Bxe5 Qxe5 25.Qxg4



g6! Threatens to win with ...axb4.

[25...Qxc3 26.Bxh7+ Kxh7 27.Qh5+ Kg8 28.Qf7+ Kh8 29.Qh5+ Kg8 30.Qf7+ Kh7 31.Qh5+ Kg8=]

26.h4 -3.18/23

[26.bxa5 -1.88/21 was the only defense. Rxa5 27.Qb4 Qxg5+ 28.Kh1]

26...Qe3? -1.02/21

[26...Qxc3 27.Qf4∓]

[26...axb4-+ -3.18/23 is more deadly. 27.axb4 Qe3 *(27...Qxc3 28.Qf4∓)*]

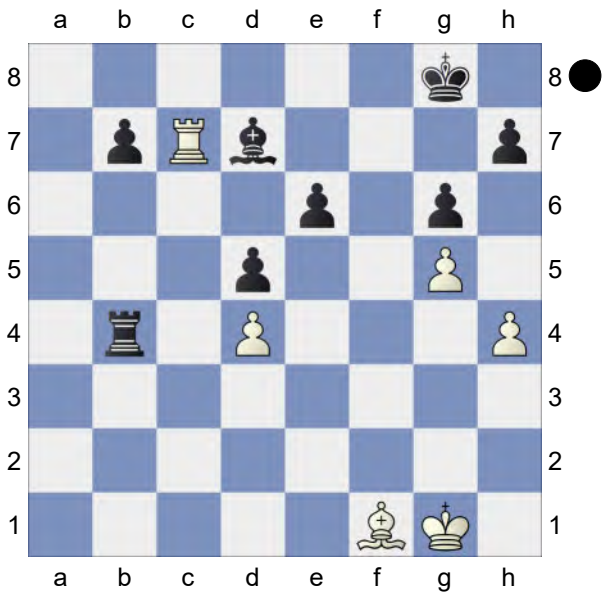
27.Qd4? -4.06/24

[27.Bf1∓ -1.02/21 nothing else works.]

27...Qxd4 28.cxd4 axb4 29.axb4 Endgame KRB-KRB. Black is a pawn up.

29...Ra3 30.Bf1 Rb3 31.Rc2 Rxb4 32.Rc7

(Diagram)



Be8 33.Bh3 Bf7

[Not 33...Rxd4 34.Bxe6+ Kf8 35.Rxh7=]

34.Rc8+ Kg7 35.Rc7 Kf8

[35...Rxd4 36.Bxe6 Rf4 37.Kg2=]

36.Rc8+ Ke7 37.Rc7+ Ke8 38.Rc8+ Kd7 39.Rh8 -5.49/23

[39.Rb8 -3.35/22 was worth a try.]

39...Rxd4 40.Rxh7 Weighted Error Value: White=0.64/Black=0.23 (precise)

40...Ke8

0-1

254 **C11**

□ **Anand,Viswanathan** **2420**

■ **Lobron,Eric** **2515**

42/72 Philadelphia 1986

[Anand,Viswanathan, MH]

ChessCalisthenics: 'A55: Old Indian Defence with Nf3 and e4' C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4

1.e4 ChessCalisthenics Chess Calisthenics Stohl ChessCalisthenics **1...e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 Qb6**

[7...b5]
8.Nf3 Be7
[8...cxd4!? 9.cxd4 ChessCalisthenics Bb4+]
9.a3
[9.g3 a5 10.h4 a4 11.Bh3 Hausrath, D (2463)-Miltner,A (2400)/ Germany 2006/CBM 112/1/2-1/2 (38)]
9...0-0
[9...f6 10.b4 cxd4 11.cxd4 0-0 12.Rb1 a5 *(12...g5!?)* 13.b5 a4 14.exf6! Nxf6 15.Nc3 Nd8 16.Bd3 Nf7]
10.h4
[10.b4 ChessCalisthenics cxd4 11.Nexd4 Nxd4 12.cxd4 f6 0.61/22 *(12...f5; 12...Qc7=* 0.02/23 *)* 13.Bd3 0.00/23 *(13.h4±* 0.61/22 *)* 13...fxe5!= 14.fxe5 Black must now prevent h4. a5 0.72/22 *(14...Rxf3!=* -0.10/24 *15.gxf3 Bh4+ 16.Kf1 Nxe5)* 15.b5 0.27/21 *(15.bxa5±* 0.72/22 *Qxa5+ 16.Ke2)* 15...a4? 2.20/21 *(15...Rxf3!=* 0.27/21 *16.gxf3 Bh4+ 17.Ke2 Nxe5)* 16.h4!+- Kh8 3.03/20 *(⌓16...Qa5+* 2.04/20 *17.Bd2 Qb6)* 17.Be3 Qa5+ 18.Ke2 Nb6? 3.85/20 *(18...Qc7* 2.16/21 *19.Qc1 Qxc1 20.Rhxc1 Re8)* 19.Bd2+- Qa7 20.Bg5 Rf7 21.Qb1 Bd7 22.Bxh7 Bxb5+ 23.Kf2? 0.75/19 *(23.Qxb5 Kxh7* Lalic,B (2520)-Micic,C (2401)/Novi Sad 2005/ CBM 105 ext/1-0 (43) *24.Bxe7* ChessCalisthenics *Rxe7 25.Ng5+ Kg8 26.Qb1 Qa6+ 27.Ke1 Qa5+ 28.Kd1; 23.Qxb5+-* 2.81/22 *Kxh7 24.Bxe7 Rxf3 25.gxf3)*]
10...f6!N Stohl: '!'
[10...Na5 0.97/20 10...a5 -0.06 11.b4± cxb4! 12.axb4 Nc4± Stohl: 'O']
11.Rh3 -0.18/20
[⌓11.b4 0.24/21]
11...Na5 0.24/20
[11...a5 12.b3 Qd8 13.Ng3 h6 14.Be3 f5 15.Bd3 cxd4 16.cxd4 Nb6 17.Nh5 Qe8 18.Nh2 g6 19.Nf6+ Bxf6 20.exf6 Nd7 21.h5 Nxf6 22.hxg6 Qxg6 23.g4 Nxg4 24.Nxg4 Qxg4 25.Qxg4+ fxg4 26.Rxh6 Ne7 ½-½ 6.Nb3 Bb4 7.Bg5 (2620)-10.dc5 Bc5 11.Bd2 (2675) Plzen KB op-A U18 1997 (3.1)]
[11...cxd4∓ 12.cxd4 Na5]
[⌓11...a5! -0.18/20]
12.b4!= cxb4 13.axb4 ChessCalisthenics: 'N' **13...Nc4 14.Ng3N**
[14.h5 fxe5 15.fxe5 Ndxe5 16.dxe5 Nxe5 17.Nxe5 Qf2+ 18.Kd2 3. e4!? - French tranposition The Jobava System]
14...a5 1.11/19
[14...fxe5! 15.fxe5 Ndxe5 0.59/19 *(15...Ncxe5=* 0.21/23 feels stronger. *16.dxe5 Nxe5)* 16.dxe5± Nxe5]
[14...fxe5= 0.24/19 remains equal. 15.dxe5 a5]
15.Bd3± f5?! 1.51/23 ChessCalisthenics: '?'
[≤15...fxe5 2.33/20 15...h6 0.97 ChessCalisthenics 16.Bxh7+! Kxh7? 4.51/18 *(16...Kh8* 1.95/20 *)* 17.Ng5+!+- ⌓Bxg5!? ChessCalisthenics *(17...Kg8 18.Qh5 Nf6±* Wards off Qh7+ *19.Qg6?)* 18.hxg5+ Kg8 19.Qh5]
[15...Rf7+- 16.Bxh7+?! Kxh7 17.Ng5+!
A) 17...fxg5? #17/13 17...Kg8 3.49 18.hxg5+ Kg8± 19.Qh5!? ChessCalisthenics Rf5 20.Nxf5± 8.01/20 *(⌓20.Qh8+ #7/18 Kf7 21.g6+ Kxg6 22.Nxf5 Bh4+ 23.Rxh4 Ncxe5 24.fxe5 Kf7 25.Qxg7+ Ke8 26.Qe7#)* 20...exf5+- Lobron,E 21.g6!?;

B) 17...Kg8± 18.Qh5 Threatening mate with Qh7+. g6 19.Qxg6+ Rg7 ChessCalisthenics: '+-' 20.Qe8+ Bf8? 5.25/21 *(20...Nf8 21.Nh5!; 20...Nf8* 2.62/20 *)* 21.Nh5!+- fxg5 7.36/21 *(⌓21...Nd6* 4.93/18 *22.Qxe6+ Kh8 23.exd6 fxg5 24.hxg5 Rh7)* 22.hxg5+- Stohl: '+-'. White threatens g6 and mate. Rf7 *(22...Qc6 23.Nxg7= ⌓Kxg7* ChessCalisthenics *24.Qh5)* 23.g6! Re7?! ChessCalisthenics 24.Nf6+ Nxf6 25.exf6 Rxe8 26.f7+ Kg7 27.fxe8Q]

[Better is 15...h6 1.08/22]

16.Ng5! ChessCalisthenics: '+-' **16...Rd8** 2.31/21

[16...Bxg5 17.hxg5

A) 17...Rf7? 3.98/21 17...g6 1.68 18.Rxh7 Kxh7 6.75/21 *(⌓18...g6* 4.15/18 *)* 19.Qh5+ Kg8 Hoping for ...Nf8. 20.g6;

B) 17...g6 18.Nh5!+- Rf7 Stohl 19.Nf6++-;

C) 17...g6± 1.58/23 18.Nh5 Qc6;

D) 17...Rd8!+- 2.17/20 18.Nh5 *(18.Qh5* 1.10/17 18.Nh5 1.88 Stohl: '□' *Nf8±* Stohl: '±!' *)*]

[16...Bxg5± 1.56/20 was called for. 17.hxg5 g6]

17.Qh5?!+- ChessCalisthenics: '??'

17...Bxg5 ChessCalisthenics: '?'

18.Qxg5 ChessCalisthenics: '±'

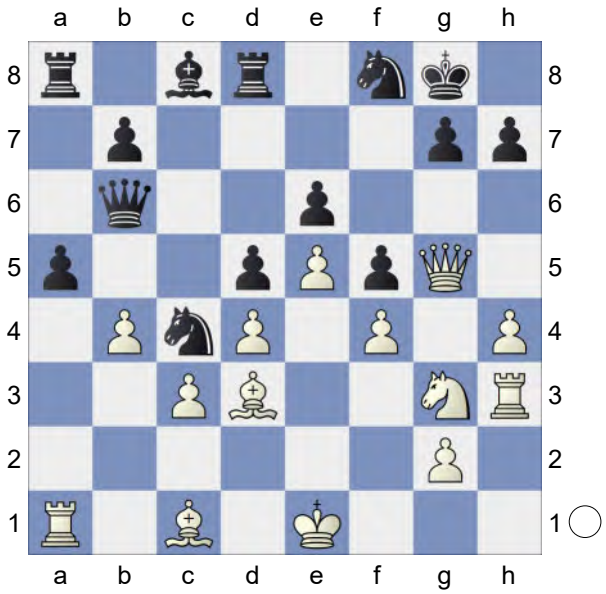
[18.hxg5= 1.15/17 18.Qxg5 2.52 Nf8]

[But not 18.hxg5?! Nf8±]

18...Rf8

[18...Nf8∓ 4.15/20 18...Rf8 2.08

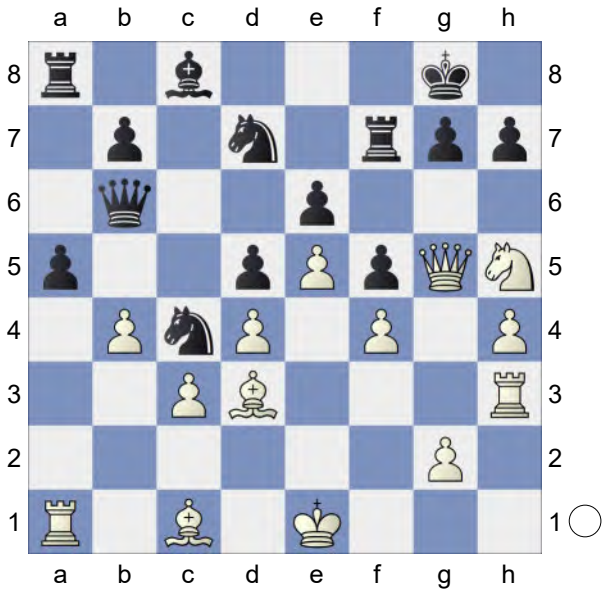
(Diagram)



≤19.Nh5! ChessCalisthenics Rd7 20.Nf6+]

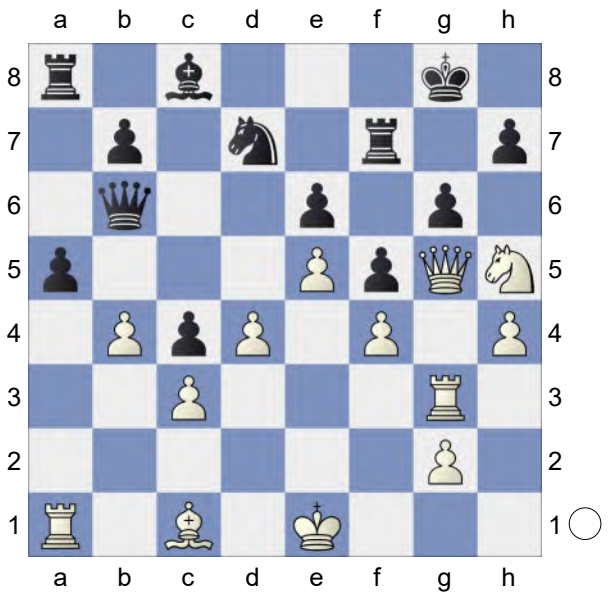
19.Nh5?→ White wants a kill. **19...Rf7** 4.75/23

[19...g6 2.46/22 20.g4 Kh8]

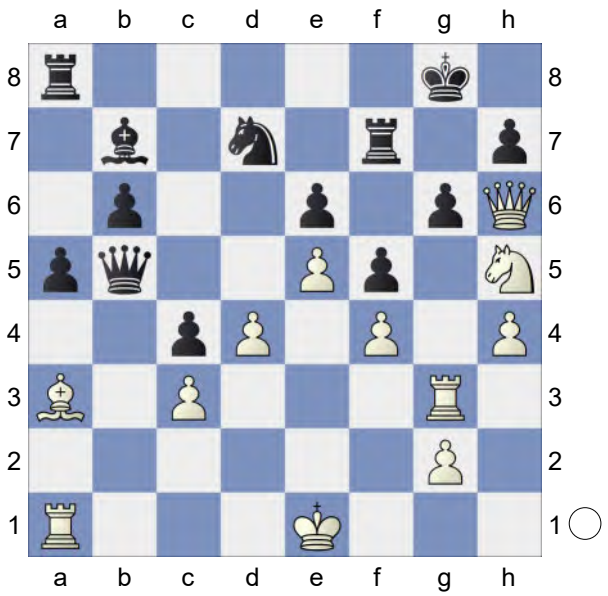


20.Rg3! ChessCalisthenics: 'Are there any weak squares?' **20...g6 21.Bxc4 dxc4□**

(Diagram)

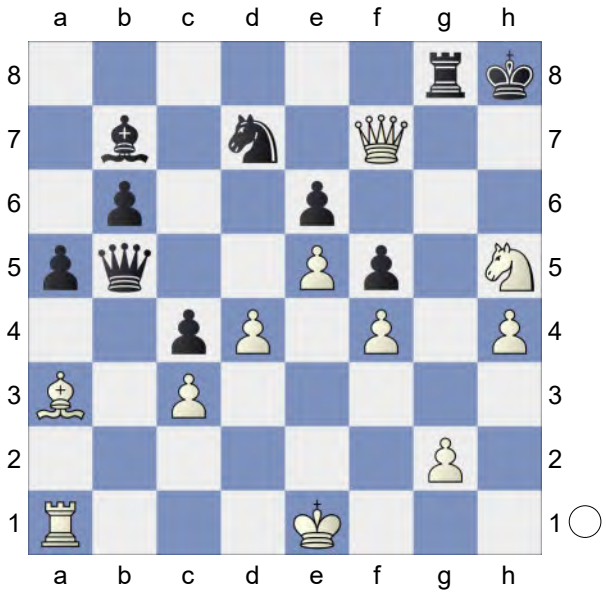


Stohl: ' □'. Black is weak on the dark squares **22.b5! Qxb5**
[22...Kh8 23.Ba3]
[22...Nf8∓ ≤23.Ba3 ChessCalisthenics. Strongly threatening Nf6+. Bd7 7.24/20 *(⌓23...Nd7 4.95/20 24.Nf6+ Nxf6)* 24.Nf6++- Kh8 25.h5]
23.Ba3 b6= Stohl: '=' **24.Qh6?!** Intending Rxg6+! and mate. **24...Bb7** #9/16
[24...Qc6+- 5.14/21 25.Rxg6+ hxg6]



25.Rxg6+! Demolition. White mates.

25...hxg6 26.Qxg6+ Kh8 27.Qxf7 Rg8



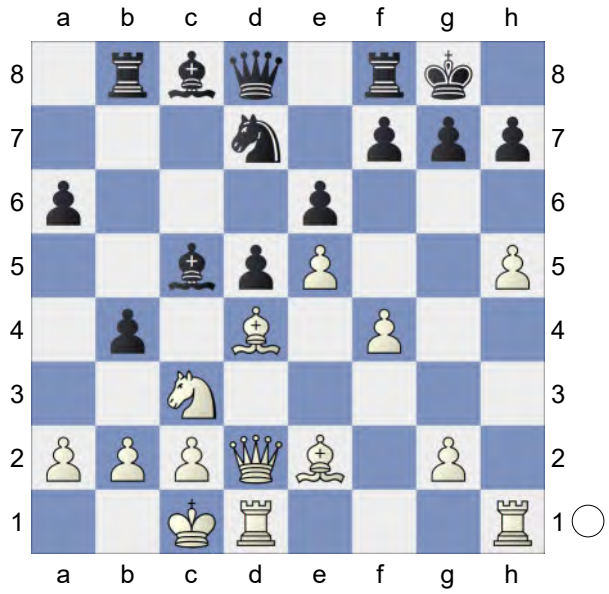
28.Bf8! Back Rank. White took control after the opening. Weighted Error Value: White=0.26 (precise) /Black=0.75. An unexpected result.
½-½

255 **C11**
□ **Orozbaev,Eldiar** **2419**
■ **Bluebaum,Matthias** **2643**
Titled Tuesday intern op 28th Jan Early b..
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Rb8 8.Be2 cxd4 9.Nxd4 Bc5** White is slightly better. **10.Qd2 0-0 11.0-0-0N** -0.01/20
[11.h4± 0.43/19]
[11.0-0 a6 12.Kh1 *(12.Nd1 Qe7 13.Nf2 f6 14.exf6 Nxf6 15.Rae1 Bd7 16.c3 Rbc8 17.Nxc6 bxc6 18.Nd3 Bd6 19.Ne5 a5 20.Bd3 c5 21.Rf3* Chapter-N,N*)* 12...Nxd4 13.Bxd4 b5 14.Bxc5 Nxc5 15.Qd4 Qb6 16.a3 Ne4 17.Qxb6 Rxb6

18.Nxe4 dxe4 19.Rfd1 Bb7 20.Kg1 a5 21.Kf2 e3+ 22.Kxe3 Bxg2 23.b4 axb4 24.axb4 Bd5 25.Ra5 Rfb8 ½-½ Perez Ponsa,F (2528)-Bluebaum, M (2643) Titled Tuesday intern op 14th Jan Early blitz 2025 (5)]

11...a6 12.h4 Nxd4 13.Bxd4 b5 14.h5 b4



15.Na4 Bxd4 16.Qxd4 Qa5 0.40/23

[16...Qe7!= -0.02/21 was preferable.]

17.b3± Hoping for Rhf1. **17...Bb7!**

18.Bd3 -0.04/19

[White should try 18.f5± 0.65/21]

18...Bc6↑ White is under pressure.

19.Nb2 Qc5 20.Qxc5 Nxc5 21.g4 -0.39/20

[21.h6= 0.14/18]

21...f6∓ 22.h6 -0.86/22

[22.exf6= -0.07/20 keeps the balance. Rxf6 *(22...Nxd3+ 23.Nxd3 gxf6 24.Rhg1∓)* 23.f5]

22...g6∓ 23.f5 -1.75/21

[23.Rhf1!∓ -0.59/19]

23...gxf5-+

[23...fxe5 24.fxg6 e4 25.g7∓]

24.gxf5 fxe5 25.fxe6 e4? -0.01/25

[Black should try 25...Nxe6-+ -1.71/20 And now ...e4 would win. 26.Bxa6 e4]

This move loses the game for White.

26.Be2? -3.26/18

[26.Rhg1+= -0.01/25 Kh8 27.e7]

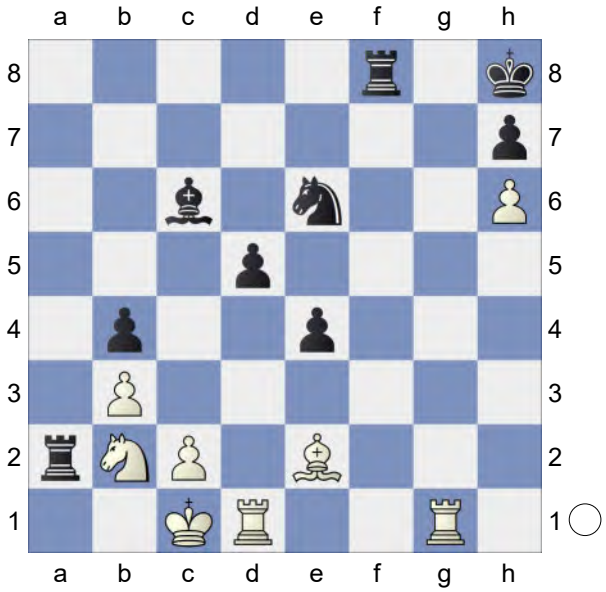
26...Nxe6 27.Bxa6 -3.87/19

[27.Rdf1 -2.66/17]

27...Ra8 28.Be2 White is weak on the dark squares **28...Rxa2 29.Rhg1+?** -4.39/20

[29.Kb1 -2.53/17 might work better. Ra7 30.Bg4]

29...Kh8



30.Na4? -7.86/24

[30.Kb1 -3.35/20 Ra7 31.Bg4]

30...Bxa4 31.bxa4 Rc8 32.Kb1 Rcxc2 (→ ...Rcb2+)

[32...Rxa4 33.Bb5 Ra7 34.Rxd5∓]

33.Bg4 Rcb2+ Black mates. **34.Kc1 Nc5 35.Rd4** Weighted Error Value: White=0.89/Black=0.16 (very precise)

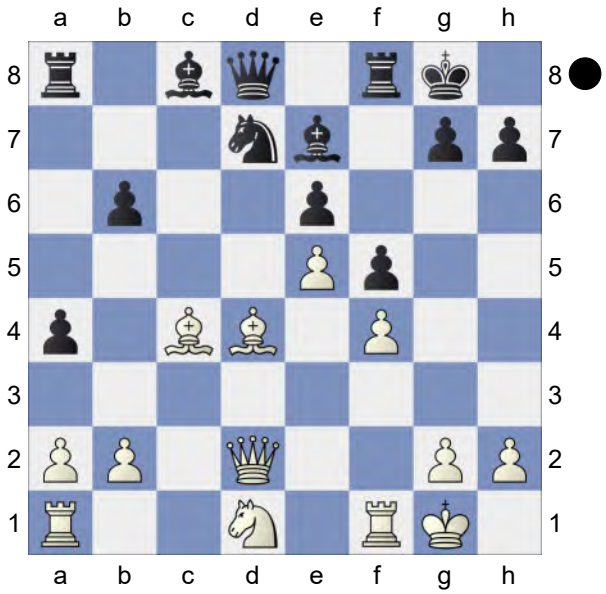
35...Nb3+

0-1

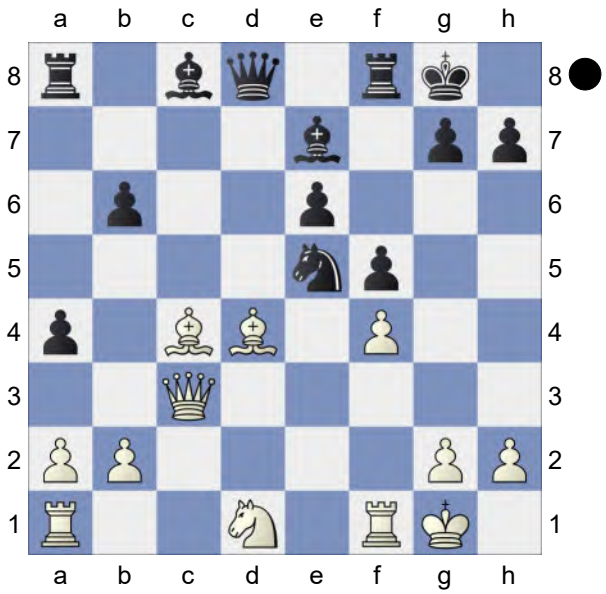
256 **C11**
□ **Dourerassou,Jonathan** **2414**
■ **Fedoseev,Vladimir** **2674**
Titled Tuesday intern op 28th Feb Late b..
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Be7 8.Qd2 b6** 0.69/17
[8...a6= 0.13/20]
9.Nd1 0.25/22
[9.Bb5± 0.69/17 Na5 *(9...Qc7 10.0-0-0 a6 11.Bxc6 Qxc6 12.f5 c4 13.f6 gxf6 14.exf6 Bxf6 15.Rhf1 b5 16.Qf2 b4 17.Ne2 b3 18.Ne5 Bxe5 19.Qxf7+ Kd8 20.dxe5 bxa2 21.Kd2 Rf8 22.Qxh7 Rxf1 23.Rxf1 d4 24.Qg8+* 1-0 Caruana,F (2817)-Naroditsky,D (2646) U.S. Championship 2017 (8.3) *)* 10.0-0]
9...0-0N 0.66/20
[9...Nxd4= 0.25/22 should be considered. 10.Nxd4 cxd4 11.Bxd4 0-0 12.Bb5 a6 13.Bxd7 Bxd7 14.Ne3 f5 15.0-0-0 b5 16.Rhg1 Be8 17.Qe2 Bg6 18.g4 Rf7 19.h4 fxg4 20.Qxg4 Qc8 21.h5 Be4 22.Rg3 Bf8 23.Rdg1 Qd7 24.Qh4 Rc8 25.c3 Kh8 26.Ng4 Rxf4 0-1 Ajay,K (2441)-Valmana Canto,J (2358) Lorca Christmas op 2022 (9)]
10.c3!± f5 White is slightly better.
11.Bd3 a5 12.0-0 a4 13.c4? -2.68/23
[13.Kh1± 0.75/20 and life is bright.]
13...cxd4-+ 14.Nxd4 Nxd4 15.Bxd4 dxc4 16.Bxc4

(Diagram)

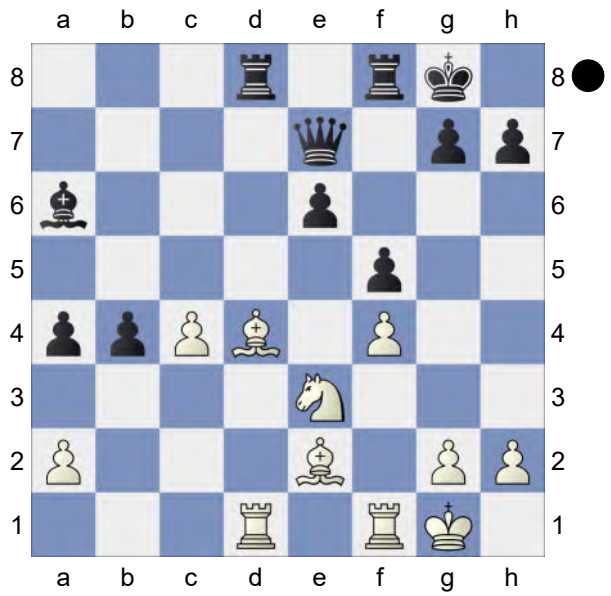


Nxe5! 17.Qc3 -4.79/21
[17.fxe5 Bc5 18.Rf4 g5-+]
[17.Ne3 -2.30/19 Nc6 18.Bc3]

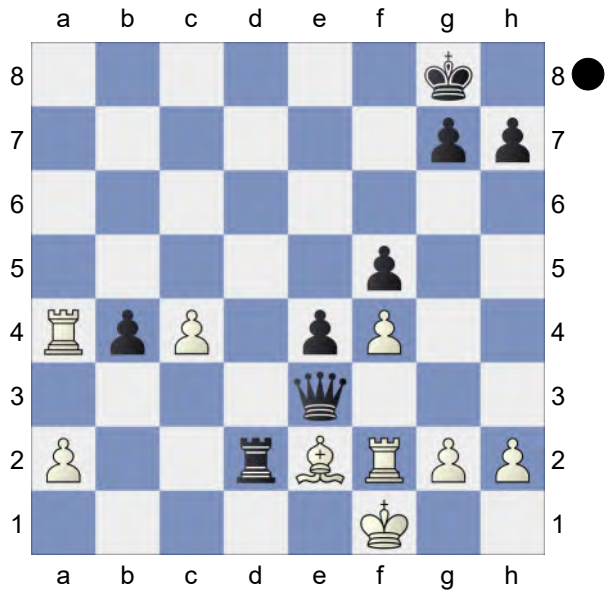


17...Bb4! Deflection **18.Bxe5 Bxc3 19.bxc3** -5.91/20
[19.Nxc3 -4.17/22 was necessary. Qe7 20.Rfd1]
19...Qe7 Black is clearly winning. **20.Ne3 Ba6 21.Bd4 b5 22.Be2 b4 23.c4 Rad8 24.Rad1**

(Diagram)



Rxd4! 25.Rxd4 e5 26.Rd3 Qa7 27.Rf2 e4 28.Rd6 Qxe3 29.Rxa6 Rd8 and ...Rd2 would now be decisive **30.Rxa4 Rd2 31.Kf1**

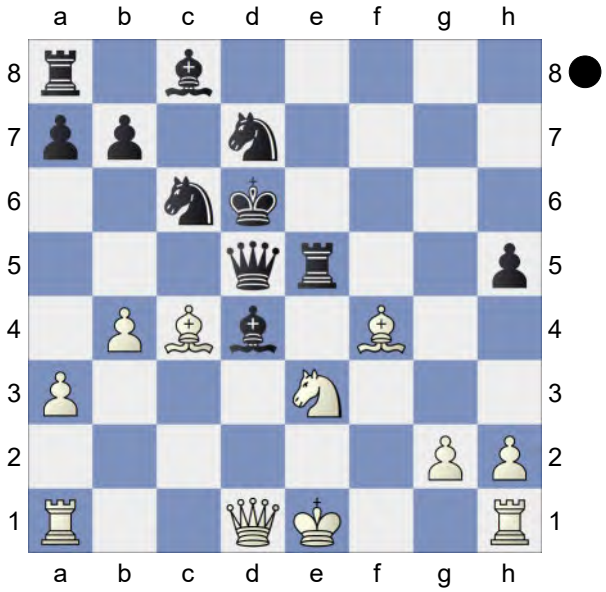


White got outplayed after the opening. Weighted Error Value: White=1.37/Black=0.26 (precise) **31...Rxa2!!** Back Rank
0-1

257 **C11**
□ **Przepiorka,Dawid** **2414**
■ **Ziuliarkin,X..** **2403**
FRA-chT Top 16 Gp Haute (1.1) 16.09.23
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nce2 Nc6 7.c3 Qb6 8.Nf3 f6 9.a3 cxd4**
[9...Be7 10.h4 0-0 11.b4 *(11.Rh3 a5 12.b3 Qd8 13.Ng3 h6 14.Be3 f5 15.Bd3 cxd4 16.cxd4 Nb6 17.Nh5 Qe8 18.Nh2 g6 19.Nf6+ Bxf6 20.exf6 Nd7 21.h5 Nxf6 22.hxg6 Qxg6 23.g4* French-8.♘d4 ♗c5 9.♕d2 0-0_659 Survey 2020*)* 11...cxd4 12.cxd4 a5 13.b5 Qxb5 14.Nc3 Qb6 15.Rb1 Qd8 16.Bd3 h6 17.Nb5 Ra6 18.Bc2 f5 19.g4 Nb6 20.gxf5 exf5 21.Bd3 Na8 22.Kf2 Rb6 23.Qg1 Nc7 24.Nxc7 ½-½ 4.h3 Bg7 5.Nf3 de4 6.Ne (2582)-10.dc5 Bc5 11.Bd2 (2734) Nanjing 2010 (7)]
10.cxd4 g5N
[10...Be7 11.Nc3 0-0 12.Na4 Qc7 13.Bd3 Nb6 14.Nc3 Bd7 15.Ne2 f5 16.Rg1 Be8 17.h3 Rc8 18.g4 Bg6 19.Ng3 fxg4 20.hxg4 Bxd3 21.Qxd3 Na5 22.b4 Qc4 23.Qxc4 Naxc4 24.f5 Na4 25.Bg5 2 Chapter-Games Chapter 14 Game]
11.exf6
[11.fxg5 fxe5 12.dxe5 Bc5∓ *(12...Ndxe5 13.Nxe5 Nxe5 14.Nf4∓)*]
11...g4 White is better. **12.f7+ Ke7** 1.26/20
[⌓12...Kxf7 0.71/23 13.Ng5+ Kg8]
13.Ne5± Nf6? 3.40/18
[13...Bg7 2.39/19 13...Ndxe5 1.63 14.Nxg4 Bxd4 15.f5? 0.44/23 *(15.Nxd4!+-* 2.01/18 *Qxd4 16.Bd2 Qe4+ 17.Qe2)* 15...h5 1.33/24

(15...exf5± 0.44/23 16.Nxd4 Qxd4 17.Bg5+ Kxf7 18.Qxd4 Nxd4) 16.Bg5+± Kxf7 17.fxe6+ Kxe6 18.Nf4+ 0.05/18 *(White should play 18.Nxd4+± 1.12/20 Qxd4 19.Qxd4 Nxd4 20.Ne3)* 18...Kd6= 19.Ne3! Re8! 20.Nfxd5 Qa5+ 21.b4? -3.09/22 *(21.Qd2= 0.00/26* and White has nothing to worry. *Qxd5 22.Bf4+ Re5 23.0-0-0)* 21...Qxd5-+ 22.Bf4+ Re5! 23.Bc4



Qe4! 24.Bd3? -8.38/20 *(24.0-0* -2.95/20 *Kc7 25.Kh1 Bxe3 26.Bd5 Qxf4 27.Rxf4 Bxf4 28.Qf3)* 24...Qxf4]

[13...Ndxe5± 1.48/20 might work better. 14.dxe5 *(14.fxe5 Kxf7 15.h3 Bd7±)* 14...Kxf7]

14.Nc3+- Nd8 15.Na4

[15.Nxg4 Nxg4 16.Qxg4 Qxd4+-]

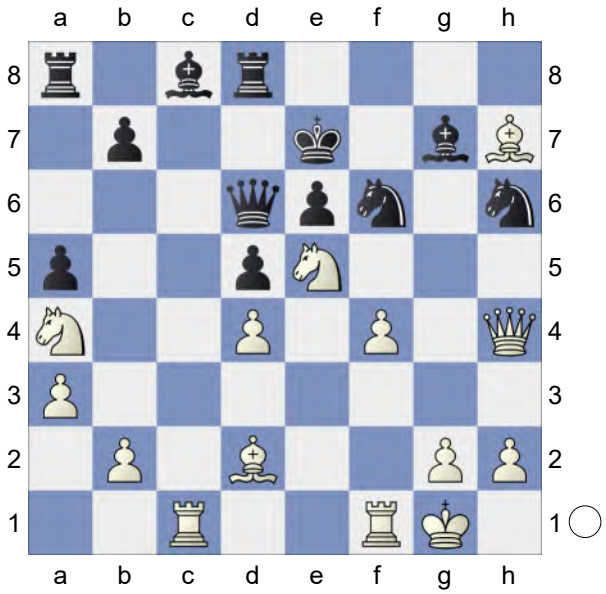
15...Qd6 16.Bd2

[Less strong is 16.Nxg4 Nxg4 17.Qxg4 h5 18.Qg5+ Kxf7+-]

16...a5 17.Rc1

[Not 17.Nxg4 Nxg4 18.Qxg4 h5+-]

17...Ne4 18.Qxg4 White is clearly winning. **18...Nxf7 19.Qh4+ Nf6 20.Bd3 Bg7 21.0-0 Rd8 22.Bxh7 Nh6**



23.f5! Nxf5 24.Bxf5 exf5 25.Bf4 Ke8 26.Qg5 Intending Qg6+ and mate. **26...Qe7 27.Nb6** A dynamic duo of knights. **27...Be6 28.Qg6+ Kf8 29.Nxa8 Rxa8 30.Bh6 Ra6 31.Bxg7+ Qxg7 32.Qxg7+** Remove Defender **32...Kxg7 33.Rc7+ Kh6 34.Rxb7 f4 35.Rxf4 Ne4 36.h4** Threatening mate with Rf8. **36...Bc8 37.Rc7** Threatens to win with Rf8! **37...Ng3 38.Rf8** Black got outplayed after the opening. Weighted Error Value: White=0.07 (flawless) /Black=0.53

1-0

258 **C11**

□ **Moreno Tejera,Emilio** **2414**

■ **Tejedor Fuente,Enrique** **2403**

ESP-chT CECLUB Honor (1.1) 16.09.23

[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nce2 Nc6 7.c3 Qb6** 7...Be7 gains popularity. 7...Le7 wird beliebter. **8.Nf3 f6 9.a3 cxd4**

[9...Be7 10.h4 0-0 11.b4 *(11.Rh3*

a5 12.b3 Qd8 13.Ng3 h6 14.Be3 f5 15.Bd3 cxd4 16.cxd4 Nb6 17.Nh5 Qe8 18.Nh2 g6 19.Nf6+ Bxf6 20.exf6 Nd7 21.h5 Nxf6 22.hxg6 Qxg6 23.g4 French-8.♘d4 ♗c5 9.♕d2 0-0_659 Survey 2020*)* 11...cxd4 12.cxd4 a5 13.b5 Qxb5 14.Nc3 Qb6 15.Rb1 Qd8 16.Bd3 h6 17.Nb5 Ra6 18.Bc2 f5 19.g4 Nb6 20.gxf5 exf5 21.Bd3 Na8 22.Kf2 Rb6 23.Qg1 Nc7 24.Nxc7 ½-½ 4.h3 Bg7 5.Nf3 de4 6.Ne (2582)-10.dc5 Bc5 11.Bd2 (2734) Nanjing 2010 (7)]

10.cxd4 g5N

[10...Be7 11.Nc3 0-0 12.Na4 Qc7 13.Bd3 Nb6 14.Nc3 Bd7 15.Ne2 f5 16.Rg1 Be8 17.h3 Rc8 18.g4 Bg6 19.Ng3 fxg4 20.hxg4 Bxd3 21.Qxd3 Na5 22.b4 Qc4 23.Qxc4 Naxc4 24.f5 Na4 25.Bg5 2 Chapter-Games Chapter 14 Game]

11.exf6

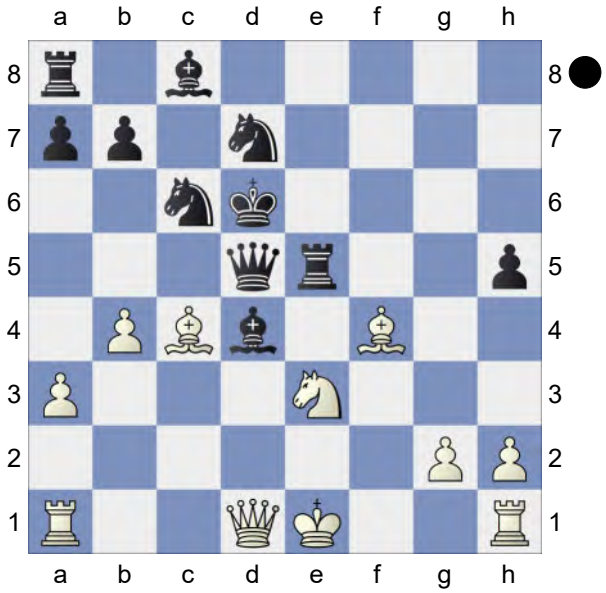
[11.fxg5 fxe5 12.dxe5 Bg7∓ *(12...Ndxe5 13.Nxe5 Nxe5 14.Nf4∓)*]

11...g4 White is better. **12.f7+! Ke7** 1.32/22

[⌓12...Kxf7 0.75/23 13.Ng5+ Kg8]

13.Ne5± Nf6N 3.43/19

[Vorgänger: 13...Bg7 2.52/21 13...Ndxe5 1.15 14.Nxg4 Bxd4 15.f5 0.40/22 *(15.Nxd4!+-* 1.83/19 *Qxd4 16.Qf3)* 15...h5 1.27/22 *(*Black should try *15...exf5±* 0.40/22 *16.Nxd4 Qxd4 17.Bg5+ Kxf7 18.Qxd4 Nxd4)* 16.Bg5+ Kxf7 1.75/23 *(16...Kf8±* 1.33/19 *)* 17.fxe6+ 1.12/18 *(*White should play *17.Nxd4+-* 1.75/23 *Qxd4 18.Nh6+* Discovered Attack *Rxh6 19.Bxh6 Qh4+ 20.g3 Qe4+ 21.Qe2 exf5 22.Bg2 Qxe2+ 23.Kxe2)* 17...Kxe6± 18.Nf4+ 0.00/25 *(18.Nxd4+±* 0.93/19 *Qxd4 19.Qxd4 Nxd4 20.Ne3)* 18...Kd6= 19.Ne3! Re8! 20.Nfxd5 Qa5+ 21.b4? -3.12/21 *(21.Qd2=* 0.00/25 and White is okay. *Qxd5 22.Bf4+ Re5 23.0-0-0)* 21...Qxd5-+ 22.Bf4+ Re5! 23.Bc4



Qe4! 24.Bd3? -8.42/18 *(24.0-0* -2.65/19 *Kc7 25.Kh1 Bxe3 26.Bd5 Qxf4 27.Rxf4 Bxf4 28.b5)* 24...Qxf4 0-1 Gladkiy,D (2373)-Cherepovskaya, M (2067) RUS-ch 60th zt 2007 (1)]

[13...Ndxe5± 1.41/19 14.dxe5 *(14.fxe5 Kxf7 15.g3 Bd7±)* 14...Kxf7]

14.Nc3+- Nd8 15.Na4

[15.Nxg4 Nxg4 16.Qxg4 Qxd4+-]

15...Qd6 16.Bd2 White is clearly winning.

[Weaker is 16.Nxg4 Nxg4 17.Qxg4 h5 18.Qg5+ Kxf7+-]

16...a5 17.Rc1

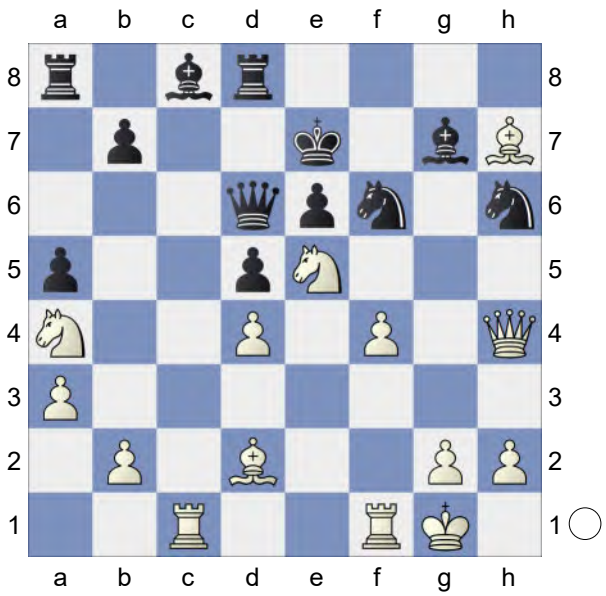
[17.Nxg4 Nxg4 18.Qxg4 Bd7+-]

17...Ne4 6.14/18

[⌓17...Bg7 4.21/18 18.Bd3 *(18.Nxg4 Nxg4 19.Qxg4 Bxd4+-)* 18...Nxf7]

18.Qxg4 Nxf7 19.Qh4+ Nf6 20.Bd3 Bg7 21.0-0 Rd8 22.Bxh7 Nh6

(Diagram)



23.f5! Nxf5 24.Bxf5 exf5 25.Bf4 Ke8 26.Qg5 Intending Qg6+ and mate. **26...Qe7 27.Nb6** A dynamic duo of knights. **27...Be6 28.Qg6+ Kf8 29.Nxa8 Rxa8 30.Bh6 Ra6 31.Bxg7+ Qxg7 32.Qxg7+** Remove Defender **32...Kxg7 33.Rc7+ Kh6 34.Rxb7 f4 35.Rxf4 Ne4 36.h4** Threatening mate with Rf8. **36...Bc8 37.Rc7** Rf8! would kill now. **37...Ng3 38.Rf8** Black got outplayed after the opening. Weighted Error Value: White=0.29 (precise) / Black=0.79

1-0

259 **C11**

□ **Krastev,Alexander** **2411**

■ **Klimkowski,Jan** **2485**

EU-chT U18 Iasi (3.1) 26.07.2023

[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 Be7 8.Nf3 0-0 9.g3 b5 10.Bh3**

[10.a3 a5 11.Bg2 a4 12.dxc5 Nxc5 13.Ned4 Na5 14.0-0 Bd7 15.Qe2 Nc4 16.Be3 Qc7 17.Rad1 Ne4 18.Rde1 Rae8 19.Kh1 f6 20.exf6 Bxf6 21.Bc1 h6 22.Nc2 Be7 23.Ne3 Bd6 24.Nh4 Rf7 ½-½ Lauron,P (2302)-10.dc5 ♗c5 11. ♗d2 (2631) World U20-ch22 Belfort 1983 (4)]

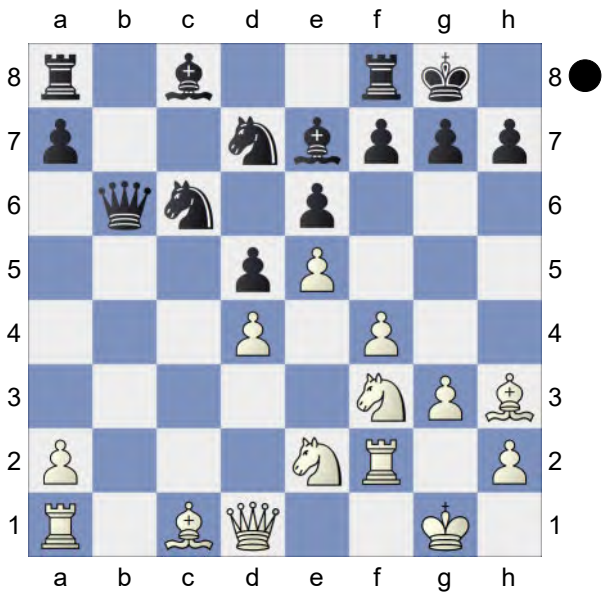
[10.Bg2 b4 11.f5 exf5 12.Nf4 Nb6 13.h4 h6 14.Nh5 bxc3 15.bxc3 Nc4 16.Bxh6 gxh6 17.Qc1 Kh7 18.Ng5+ Bxg5 19.hxg5 Qxg5 20.Qxg5 hxg5 21.Bxd5 N4a5 22.Kf2 Rb8 23.Nf4+ Kg7 24.Nh5+ Kg6 ½-½ 7.♗c2 ♗b7 8. ♕e2 ♘g6_5 (2465)-5.00 b5 6. ♗b3 ♗c5 7.c3 d6 (2456) Cutro 05th 1999 (10)]

10...b4 11.0-0 Qb6N Black has an edge.

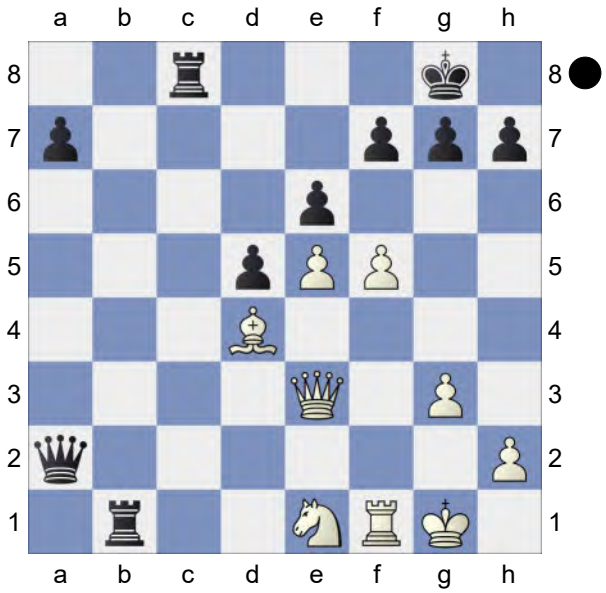
[11...bxc3 12.bxc3 Nb6 13.g4 Ba6 14.f5 Nc4 15.fxe6 fxe6 16.g5 cxd4 17.Bxe6+ *(17.cxd4 Qb6 18.Bxe6+ Kh8 19.Bxd5 Rad8 20.Be4 N6xe5 21.Nxe5 Nxe5 22.Rb1 Rxf1+ 23.Qxf1 Qe6 24.dxe5 Qg4+ 25.Bg2 Bc5+ 26.Kh1 Bxe2 27.h3 Qd4 28.Qe1 Qxe5* #2 Classical Nce2-6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 with 9.g3*)* 17...Kh8 18.cxd4 N6xe5 19.dxe5 Qb6+ 20.Nfd4 Bc5 21.Rxf8+ Rxf8 22.Bh3 Nxe5 23.Kh1 Bd3 24.Be3 Bxe2 25.Qxe2 Bxd4 #1 Classical Nce2-6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 with 9. g3]

12.Rf2 bxc3 13.bxc3 cxd4 14.cxd4

(Diagram)

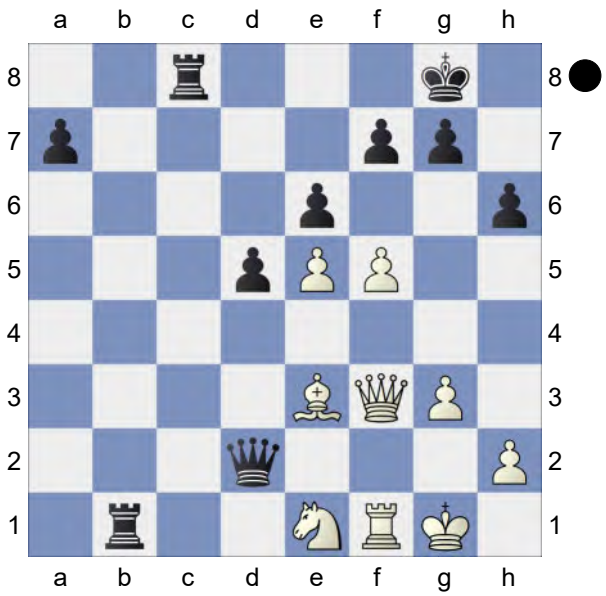


Ndxe5? 2.92/22 **15.dxe5?** -0.12/18
[15.fxe5 Ba6 16.Nf4 Rab8+-]
[15.Nxe5+- 2.92/22 Hoping for Be3. Rb8 16.Nf3]
15...Bc5= Pin **16.Qe1 Ba6 17.Nc3! Nb4** 0.19/24
[⌓17...Rab8 -0.22/24 18.Bd2 Nd4]
18.Na4 Bxf2+ 19.Qxf2 Qa5 0.91/24
[19...Qxf2+= 0.18/26 keeps the balance. 20.Kxf2 Rac8]
20.Nc5± Nd3 21.Nxd3 Bxd3 22.Bd2 Qa3 23.Qe3 Qb2 Prevents Nd4 **24.Qd4** 0.03/23
[White should play 24.Re1± 1.03/24 Be4 25.Bc3 Qxa2 26.Ng5]
24...Rab8!= 25.Bc3
[25.Qxb2 simplifies Rxb2 26.Bc3 Rc2 27.Bd4]
25...Qb5 1.21/21
[25...Qa3!= 0.00/24]
26.Bf1 0.03/22
[26.Qxa7 Ra8 27.Qe3 Ra3=]
[26.f5!± 1.21/21 Be4 27.Nh4]
26...Bxf1 27.Rxf1 Rfc8 28.Qe3 -0.33/22
[28.Qd2= 0.03/22]
28...Qc4↑ Black has compensation. Black has some pressure. **29.Bd4** -1.46/20
[29.Be1= -0.30/22 remains equal.]
29...Qxa2∓ White must now prevent ... Rb1. **30.f5** -2.23/23
[30.Nd2∓ -1.33/19 was called for.]
30...Rb1-+
[30...exf5 31.e6 *(31.Bxa7? Rb3-+)* 31...f6 32.e7+- *(32.Bxa7 Rb3∓)*]
31.Ne1



h6! ...Rcc1 is the strong threat. **32.Qf3** -2.69/24
[32.fxe6 -1.87/20 was necessary. fxe6 33.Qf3]
32...Qd2 33.Be3

(Diagram)

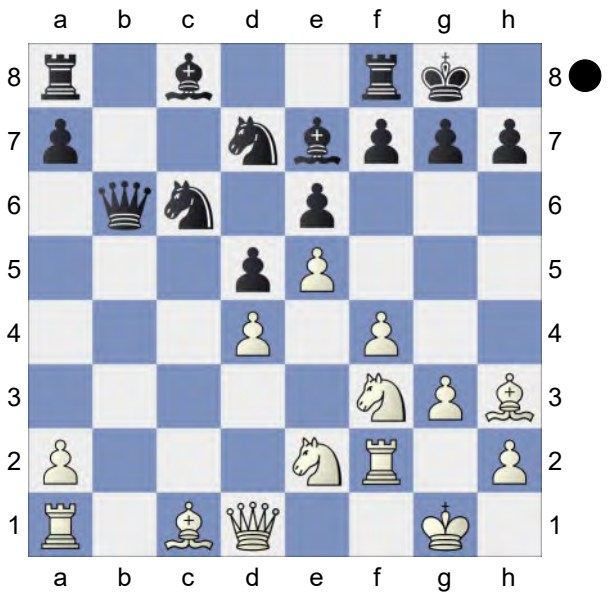


Qc3 34.Qf2 -3.81/23
[34.Qe2 -2.43/21 was the only defense.]
34...Qxe5 35.fxe6 Qxe6 36.Nf3 Rxf1+ Black is clearly winning. **37.Kxf1 a5 38.Bd4 Qe4** ...Qd3+ would now be deadly. **39.Bb2 Rc2** Weighted Error Value: White=0.66/Black=0.23 (precise)
0-1

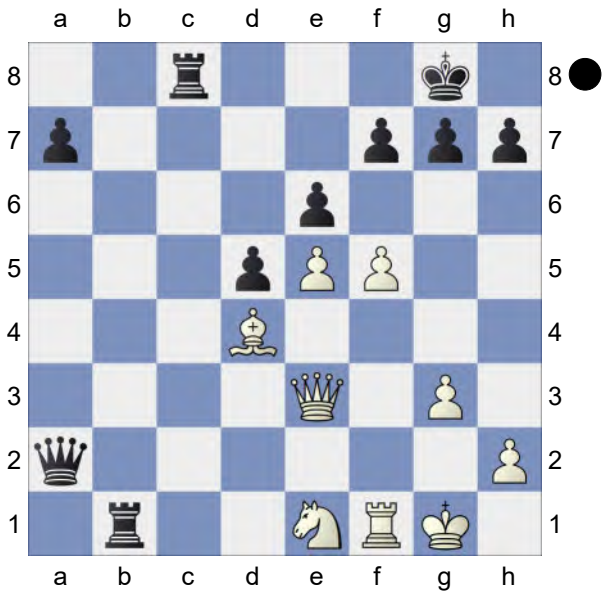
260 **C11**
□ **Trubitsyn,Boris Panteleimonov 2411**
■ **Kroggel,J.. 2485**
Latvia corr (3.1) 26.07.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 Be7 8.Nf3 0-0 9.g3** -0.22/21
[⌓9.Be3 0.27/21]
9...b5= 10.Bh3
[10.a3 a5 11.Bg2 a4 12.dxc5 Nxc5 13.Ned4 Na5 14.0-0 Bd7 15.Qe2 Nc4 16.Be3 Qc7 17.Rad1 Ne4 18.Rde1 Rae8 19.Kh1 f6 20.exf6 Bxf6 21.Bc1 h6 22.Nc2 Be7 23.Ne3 Bd6 24.Nh4 Rf7 ½-½ Lauron,P (2302)-10.dc5 ♗c5 11. ♗d2 (2631) World U20-ch22 Belfort 1983 (4)]
[10.Bg2 b4 11.f5 exf5 12.Nf4 Nb6 13.h4 h6 14.Nh5 bxc3 15.bxc3 Nc4 16.Bxh6 gxh6 17.Qc1 Kh7 18.Ng5+ Bxg5 19.hxg5 Qxg5 20.Qxg5 hxg5 21.Bxd5 N4a5 22.Kf2 Rb8 23.Nf4+ Kg7 24.Nh5+ Kg6 ½-½ 7.♗c2 ♗b7 8.♕e2 ♘g6_5 (2465)-5.00 b5 6. ♗b3 ♗c5 7.c3 d6 (2456) Cutro 05th 1999 (10)]
10...b4 11.0-0 Qb6N 0.20/19
[11...bxc3∓ -0.31/21 12.bxc3
A) 12...Nb6 13.g4 Ba6 14.f5 Nc4 15.fxe6 fxe6 16.g5 cxd4 17.Bxe6+ *(17.cxd4 Qb6 18.Bxe6+ Kh8 19.Bxd5 Rad8 20.Be4 N6xe5 21.Nxe5 Nxe5 22.Rb1 Rxf1+ 23.Qxf1 Qe6 24.dxe5 Qg4+ 25.Bg2 Bc5+ 26.Kh1 Bxe2 27.h3 Qd4 28.Qe1 Qxe5* #2 Classical Nce2-6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 with 9.g3*)* 17...Kh8 18.cxd4 N6xe5 19.dxe5 Qb6+ 20.Nfd4 Bc5 21.Rxf8+ Rxf8 22.Bh3 Nxe5 23.Kh1 Bd3 24.Be3 Bxe2 25.Qxe2 Bxd4 #1 Classical Nce2-6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 with 9.g3;
B) 12...Re8]
12.Rf2 bxc3 13.bxc3 cxd4 14.cxd4

(Diagram)



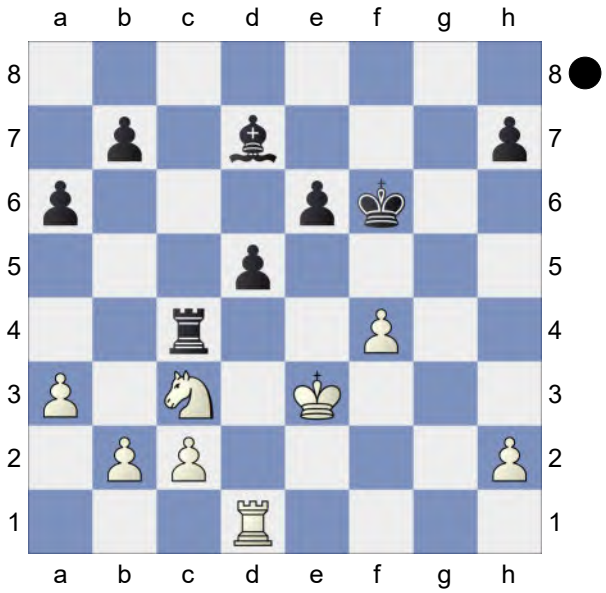
Ndxe5? 2.88/21 **15.dxe5?** -0.16/18
[15.fxe5 Ba6 16.Nf4 Rfc8 17.Nxe6 fxe6 18.Bxe6+ Kh8 19.Bxc8 *(19.Bxd5 Rd8+-)* 19...Rxc8]
[15.Nxe5+- 2.88/21 Be3 would now be deadly. Nxe5 16.fxe5]
15...Bc5 Pin **16.Qe1 Ba6 17.Nc3 Nb4 18.Na4 Bxf2+ 19.Qxf2 Qa5** 0.81/24
[19...Qxf2+= 0.22/26 20.Kxf2 Rac8]
20.Nc5± Nd3 21.Nxd3 Bxd3 22.Bd2 Qa3 23.Qe3 Qb2 24.Qd4 0.10/23
[White should try 24.Re1± 1.05/23 Be4 25.Bc3]
24...Rab8!= 25.Bc3 Qb5 1.33/23
[25...Qa3= -0.01/24 keeps the balance.]
26.Bf1 0.03/22
[26.Qxa7?! Rfc8 27.Qd4 Rc7±]
[26.f5± 1.33/23 Be4 27.Rf1]
26...Bxf1 27.Rxf1 Rfc8 28.Qe3 Qc4 Black has compensation.
[28...Qa4 simplifies 29.Nd4 Qa3 30.Bd2 Qxe3+ 31.Bxe3 Rc3]
29.Bd4 -1.06/21
[29.Be1= -0.19/23]
29...Qxa2∓ And now ...Rb3 would win.
30.f5 -2.15/21
[30.Nd2∓ -1.24/24]
30...Rb1-+
[30...exf5? perishes. 31.e6 *(31.Bxa7? loses. Rb3-+)* 31...f6 32.e7+- *(32.Bxa7 Rb3∓)*]
31.Ne1



h6! Threatens to win with ...Rcc1. **32.Qf3** -2.86/24
[⌓32.fxe6 -1.96/23 fxe6 33.Qd3]
32...Qd2 33.Be3 Qc3 34.Qf2 -3.72/22
[34.Qe2 -2.17/20]
34...Qxe5 35.fxe6 Qxe6 36.Nf3 -5.59/21
[36.Bxa7 -3.73/18 might work better. Rcc1 37.Be3]
36...Rxf1+ Black is clearly winning.
37.Kxf1 a5 38.Bd4 Qe4 White must now prevent ...Qd3+. **39.Bb2 Rc2** Weighted Error Value: White=0.70/Black=0.30
0-1

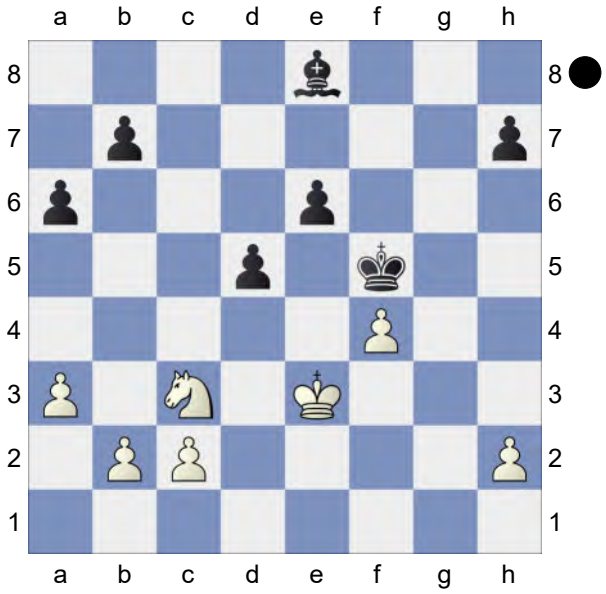
261 **C11**
□ **Sathvik,Adiga** **2408**
■ **Gumularz,Szymon** **2579**
Singapore op (9) 05.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.a3 cxd4 9.Nxd4 Bc5 10.Qd2 g5!** is now more promising than 10...0-0. im Vergleich zu 10...0-0 vielversprechender. **11.g3N** 0.05/22
[11.fxg5 Nxd4 12.Bxd4 Bxd4 13.Qxd4 Qxg5∓]
[11.f5± 0.47/21 Bxd4 *(11...Ndxe5 12.0-0-0=)* 12.Bxd4]
[11.Nf3 d4 12.Bxd4 Nxd4 13.Nxd4 gxf4 14.Qxf4 Nxe5 15.0-0-0 *(15.Nb3 Ng6 16.Qf3 Ba7 17.Bxa6 0-0 18.Bd3 Qh4+ 19.Qg3 Qh6 20.h4 f5 21.Nd2 Bb8 22.Qf2 Ba7 23.Qg3 Bb8 24.Qf2 Ba7 25.Qg3 Bb8* ½-½ Osnos,V (2736)-Campos (2642) 2010*)* 15...Ng6 16.Qe4 Qg5+ 17.Kb1 Qe5 18.g3 Qxe4 19.Nxe4 Be7 20.Bg2 0-0 21.Nb3 Ra7 22.Nd6 b5 23.Nxc8 Rxc8 24.c3 a5 25.Nd4 b4 0-1 Fier,A (2606)-Bluebaum,M (2663) Titled Tuesday intern op 28th Feb Late blitz 2023 (4)]
[11.Nxc6 Bxe3 12.Nxd8 Bxd2+ 13.Kxd2 gxf4 14.Nxf7 Kxf7 15.Re1 Rg8 16.Nxd5 exd5 17.e6+ Kf6 18.exd7 Bxd7 19.Re2 Bf5 20.Rf2 Be4 21.Rxf4+ Ke5 22.Rf7 Raf8 23.Re7+ Kd6 24.Rxb7 Rf2+ 25.Ke3 Rxc2 ½-½ Bulmaga,I (2386)-Vaishali,R (2476) Tata Steel-B 87th 2025 (6)]
11...gxf4= The position is equal. **12.gxf4 Nxd4 13.Bxd4 Qh4+ 14.Qf2 Qxf2+ 15.Bxf2 Bxf2+ 16.Kxf2 f6 17.exf6 Nxf6 18.Ke3N**
[18.Bd3 Bd7 19.Rhg1 Kf7 20.Raf1 Rhg8 21.Rxg8 Rxg8 22.h3 h6 23.Ne2 Nh5 24.c4 dxc4 25.Bxc4 0-1 Morefield,J (2209)-Bluebaum,M (2655) Titled Tuesday intern op 16th Jan Late blitz 2024 (3)]
18...Rf8 19.Be2 -0.16/20 Wards off Ng4+
[⌓19.Rg1 0.20/21]
19...Bd7= 20.Bf3 Rc8 21.Rad1 Ke7 22.Rhg1 Ne8! 23.Be2 Nd6 -0.01/19
[23...Rf6∓ -0.48/19]
24.Rg7+ Rf7 25.Rxf7+ Kxf7 26.Bd3 Kf6 Black wants to play ...Nc4+. **27.Rg1** -1.49/22
[27.Ne2= -0.04/21 remains equal.]
27...Nc4+∓ 28.Bxc4 Rxc4 Endgame KRB-KRN **29.Rd1** -2.62/24
[29.Rg8∓ -1.47/22 might work better.]



29...Be8 -1.31/26
[29...h6!-+ -2.62/24 aiming for ...Be8. 30.Rd4 Rxd4 31.Kxd4 Kf5]
30.Rd4 Rxd4 31.Kxd4 KB-KN **31...Kf5** Now White is beyond hope. **32.Ke3** -4.66/24
[32.Ne2∓ -1.05/26 nothing else

works.]

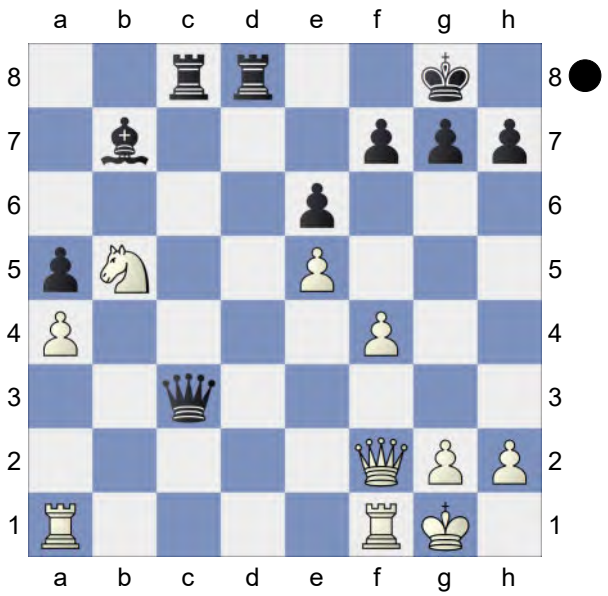


32...d4+!-+ Deflection **33.Kxd4** Ne2 is the strong threat. **33...Kxf4** **34.Ne2+ Kf3 35.Ng3** -5.94/23
[⌓35.Nc1 -4.01/24 h5 36.Ke5]
35...Bg6 Black is clearly winning. **36.Ke5 Bxc2 37.Kxe6 Kg2 38.Nh5 Kxh2 39.Kd6** -8.78/22
[⌓39.Kf6 -4.45/23 Kg2 40.Kg7]
39...Bd1 40.Nf6 h5 41.Kc7 h4 42.Ne4 Bf3 43.Ng5 Bg2 44.b4 Kg3 45.a4 Weighted Error Value: White=0.84/ Black=0.09 (flawless) **45...Kg4**
0-1

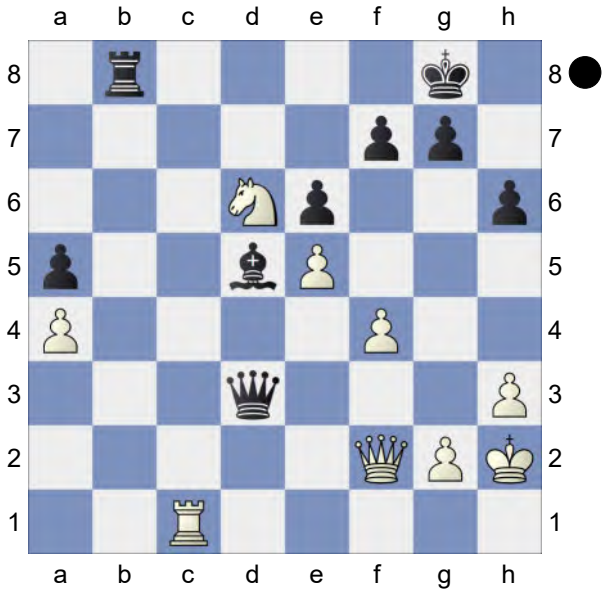
262 **C11**
□ **Matinian,Nikita** **2407**
■ **Bluebaum,Matthias** **2663**
Airthings Masters Play In rapid (3)
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.Qd2 b5 9.a3 Qa5!** now scores much better than the old 9... Qb6. punktet besser als das ältere 9... Db6. **10.dxc5 Bxc5 11.Bxc5 Nxc5** White has an edge. **12.Ne2** Hoping for b4. **12...Qb6 13.Ned4N** -0.14/19
[Vorgänger: 13.Qe3! b4 14.c3 bxc3 15.b4 Na4 16.Qxb6 Nxb6 17.Nxc3 f6 18.exf6 0.08/19 *(18.Bd3!± 0.49/21)* 18...gxf6= 19.0-0-0 -0.29/17 ½-½ (69) So,W (2770)-Nepomniachtchi,I (2792) chess24.com INT 2021 *(19.Be2* 0.18/19 should be considered. *)*]
[13.Qe3± 0.32/23]
13...Ne4= 14.Qe3 b4! 15.a4 0-0N
[15...Bb7 16.Bd3 0-0 17.0-0 Rac8 18.f5 7...a6 8.Qd2/Ne2 2015]
16.Bd3 a5 17.Bxe4 -0.39/19
[17.0-0= 0.01/19]
17...dxe4∓ 18.Qxe4 Nxd4 0.22/22
[⌓18...Bb7 -0.26/18 19.Qe3 *(19.Ng5 g6∓)* 19...Ne7]
19.Nxd4= White wants to play 0-0-0!.
[19.Qxd4 Qc6]
19...Bb7 20.Qe3 Rac8
[20...Bxg2?! 21.Rg1±]
21.0-0 -0.01/23
[21.0-0-0± 0.38/21]
21...Rfd8 22.c3 -1.29/20
[22.Rad1= 0.01/20]
22...bxc3∓ 23.bxc3 Qb2↑ White is under pressure. **24.Qf2 Qxc3** Black is more active. **25.Nb5**

(Diagram)



Qd3 -0.19/21 White is weak on the light squares
[25...Qb3!∓ -1.09/23 ...Rc2 is the strong threat. 26.Rfb1 Qc2]
26.Rac1 -1.49/23 Inhibits Rc2.
[26.Ra3= -0.19/21 keeps the balance. Qc2 27.Ra2 Qxf2+ 28.Raxf2]
26...h6 -1.01/24
[26...Bd5 -1.49/23 27.h3 Qb3]
27.Nd6 -1.39/24
[⌓27.h4 -1.01/24]
27...Rxc1 28.Rxc1 Bd5 29.h3 Rb8 30.Kh2

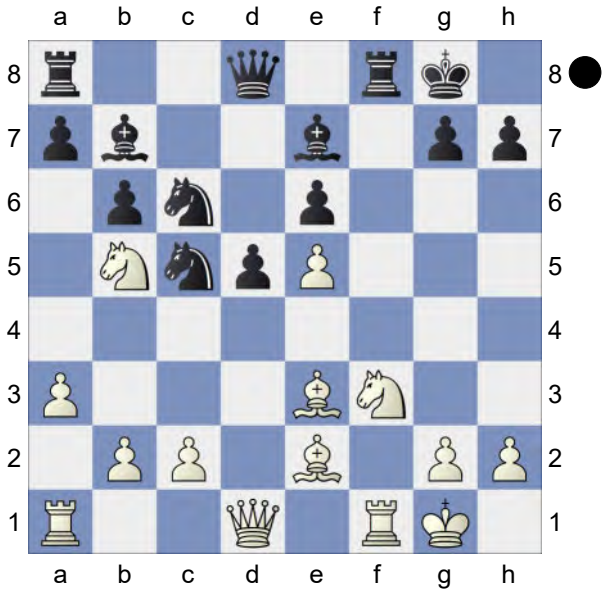


Qa3? -0.43/23
[Black should play 30...Rb1!-+ -2.01/24 31.Rc8+ Kh7]
31.f5? -16.99/21 Weighted Error Value: White=0.60/Black=0.27 (precise)
31...Qxc1
0-1

263 **C11**
□ **Bulmaga,Irina** **2386**
■ **Divya,Deshmukh** **2490**
Tata Steel-B 87th (11) 31.01.2025
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.dxc5 Nc6 7.Bd2** is more profitable than 7.a3 at the moment. scheint profitabler als 7.a3. **7...Nxc5 8.Nf3 Be7** The position is equal. **9.Be3 0-0 10.Be2N**
[10.a3 a6 11.Be2 b5 12.0-0 Bb7 13.Qe1 Ne4 14.Bd3 Nxc3 15.bxc3 f5 16.exf6 Bxf6 17.Bc5 Re8 18.Qg3 Qc7 19.Kh1 g6 20.Bd4 Rf8 21.h4 Qg7 22.Rae1 Rae8 23.Bxf6 Rxf6 24.Nd4 Kh8 ½-½ Caruana,F (2796)-Aronian,L (2738) ch-2024 Saint Louis USA (2.1)]
10...b6 11.0-0N
[11.a4 Bb7 12.0-0 Ne4 13.Nb5 -0.24/21 *(⌓13.Bd3 0.14/21)* 13...Rc8 0.38/21 *(*Black should play *13...Bc5=* -0.24/21 *14.Nbd4 f6)* 14.c3 Bc5! 15.Nfd4 -0.35/21 *(* Better is *15.Nbd4=* 0.18/20 *)* 15...a6∓ 16.Na3 Nxd4 0.06/20 *(16...Qe7∓* -0.34/20 *)* 17.cxd4 1-0 Haavamae,H (1977)-Chukavin,K (1884) Keres Memorial-B 2013 (2)]
11...Bb7 12.a3 f6 13.Nb5 fxe5 14.fxe5 -0.80/25

[14.Nxe5= 0.01/22 keeps the balance. Nxe5 15.fxe5]



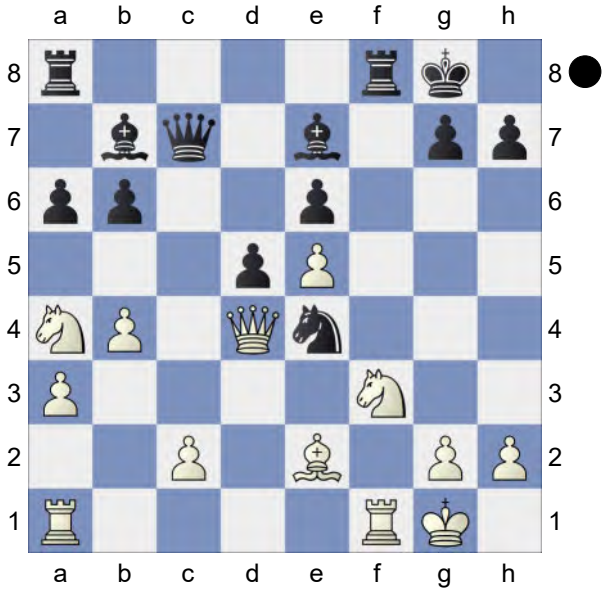
14...Qb8!∓ 15.b4 Ne4 Now White is beyond hope. **16.Bd4?** -2.21/23

[16.Bd3∓ -0.56/23]

16...a6-+ 17.Nc3 Qc7

[Resist 17...Nxd4 18.Qxd4 Qc7 19.Nb1∓]

18.Na4 Nxd4 19.Qxd4



b5

[19...Qxc2 20.Bd1 Qc7 21.Qxb6=]

20.Nb6 -5.22/21

[20.Nb2 -2.03/23]

20...Rab8 21.a4 bxa4 -2.64/22

[Weaker is 21...Qxc2 22.Nd7=]

[⌓21...Rf4 -5.97/22 22.Qe3 Nc3 *(22...Rbf8? 23.axb5 axb5 24.Bxb5-+)*]

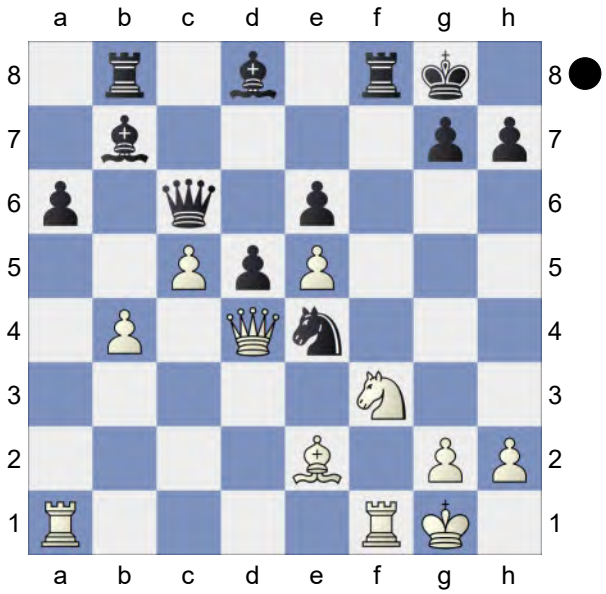
22.Rxa4? -7.01/22

[22.Nxa4 -2.64/22 Bc6 *(22...Qxc2 23.Bd3∓)* 23.Nc5 Nxc5 24.bxc5]

22...Bd8

[22...Qxc2? 23.Bd3 Qc3 24.Qxc3 Nxc3 25.Ra3 Bxb4 26.Rb3 Bc5+ 27.Kh1 Bxb6 28.Rxc3-+]

23.c4 Qxb6 24.c5 Qc6 25.Raa1



a5! 26.Nd2

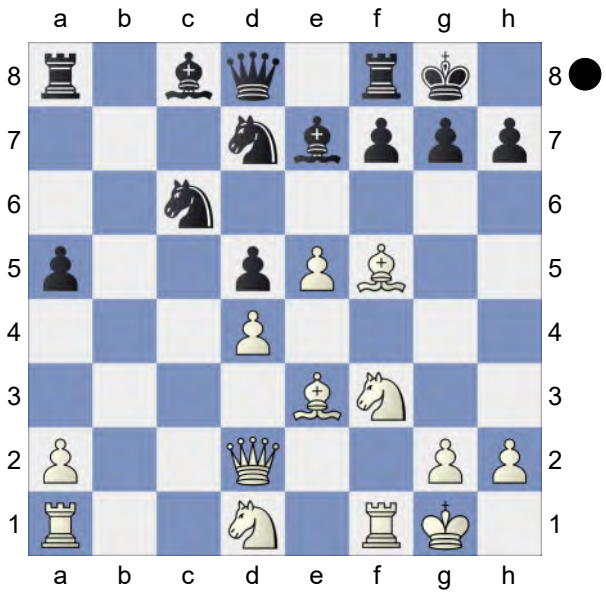
[26.bxa5 Be7]

26...Rxf1+ 27.Rxf1 Be7 28.Nxe4 dxe4 29.Kh1 axb4 30.Qxb4 Bxc5 31.Qb3 Rf8 32.Rb1 Ba8 Hoping for ...e3. **33.Bb5 Qd5 34.Bc4 Qxe5** (→ ...e3) **35.Bxe6+ Kh8 36.Qh3** Weighted Error Value: White=1.11/Black=0.30 **36...e3**

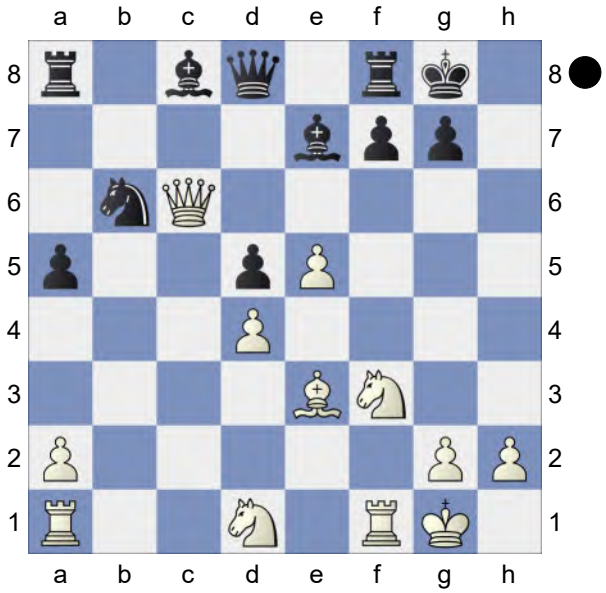
0-1

264 **C11**
□ **Sargsyan,Anna M** **2384**
■ **Bluebaum,Matthias** **2651**
Titled Tuesday intern op 15th Nov Early ..
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.Qd2 b5 9.Nd1** 0.05/21
[9.a3± 0.41/21]
9...b4= 10.c3 Be7 0.40/18
[10...bxc3= -0.08/17 11.Nxc3 Rb8]
11.Bd3± White is slightly better. **11...a5 12.0-0 0-0 13.f5** -0.22/22
[13.Qc2± 0.33/17]
13...exf5= 14.Bxf5 bxc3 15.bxc3 cxd4 16.cxd4



Black must now prevent Qc2. **16...Nb6** Loses the game. **17.Bxh7+N** -2.80/21
[17.Qc2 Bxf5 18.Qxf5 Qc8 19.Qh5 Qe6 20.Bg5 f6 21.exf6 Bxf6 22.Bxf6 Rxf6 23.Nf2 Raf8 24.Rfe1 Qd6 25.Re8 Nxd4 26.Rxf8+ Qxf8 27.Nxd4 Rxf2 28.Nf3 Re2 29.Rb1 g6 30.Qg4 Nc4 31.Kh1 Re7 0-1 Sargsyan,A (2384)-Bluebaum,M (2651) Titled Tuesday intern op 15th Nov Late blitz 2022 (2)]
17...Kxh7-+ 18.Qc2+ Kg8 and ...Nc4 would now be decisive **19.Qxc6**



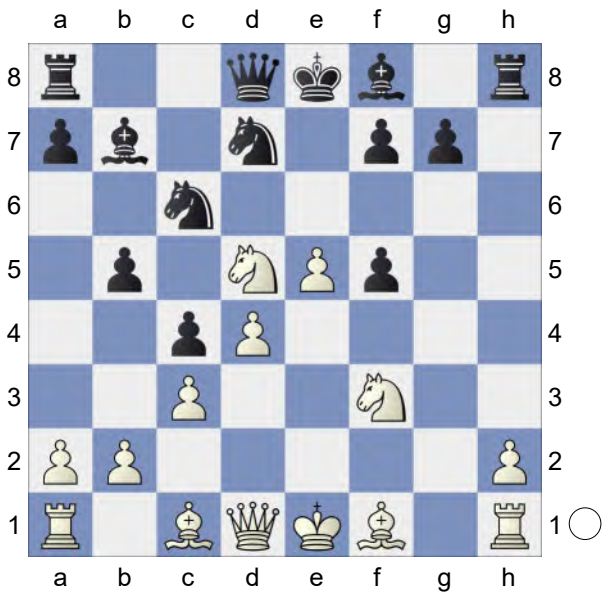
Ba6! 20.Rb1 Bxf1 A strong pair of Bishops. **21.Rxb6?** -8.14/20
[21.Kxf1 -2.18/21 Nc4 22.Rb7]
21...Rc8 Black is clearly winning. **22.Qb7 Be2 23.Nf2 Rb8 24.Qxb8 Qxb8 25.Rxb8 Rxb8 26.e6** Weighted Error Value: White=1.25/Black=0.14 (very precise) **26...Rb1+**
0-1

265 **C11**
□ **Samson,Gaetan** **2372**
■ **Coll Sola,Joan** **2701**
87/471 Romania (3) 10.01.2018
[Kitty Kat]

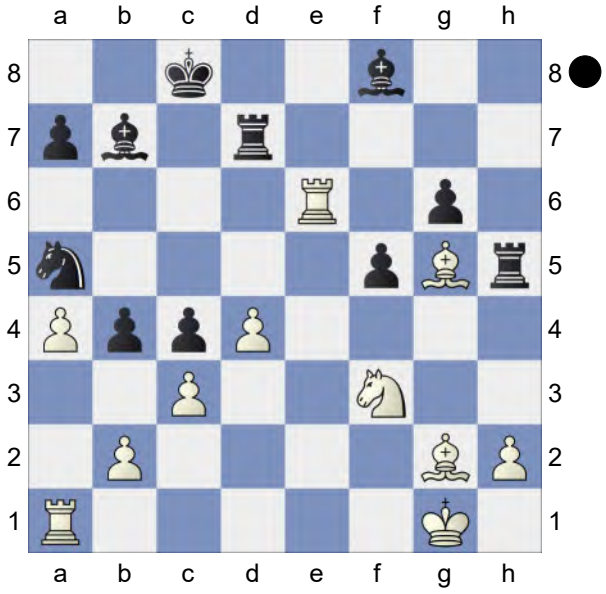
C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 Knaak,Rainer: 'Neven,K; Knaak,R;Bareev,E(NIC): 'Knaak,R: 'Inf 51/(271)'" **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 c4N** 0.73/22
[7...Be7= 0.09/20 8.Nf3 a5 9.g3 a4 10.Bh3 g6 11.0-0 b5 12.a3 Nb6

4) French Classical Variation-French Classical Variation 1… e6 Against Everything 2024]
[7...cxd4 8.cxd4 Bb4+ 9.Bd2 Bxd2+ 10.Qxd2 0-0 11.Nf3 f6 12.h4 Qe7 13.Rh3 b6 14.Nc3 Bb7 15.Bd3 Rac8 16.Rd1 a6 17.Qe2 f5 18.Bxa6 Bxa6 19.Qxa6 Na5 20.Qe2 Nc4 21.Kf1 Qb4 22.Rb1 1-0 10.Ne6 Qb6 (2479)-Strange,M (2481) Kobenhavn 82/519 2001 (6)]
[7...b5 8.Nf3 *(8.a3 cxd4 9.Nxd4 Nxd4 10.cxd4 b4 11.axb4 Bxb4+ 12.Bd2 Qb6 13.Nf3 a5 14.Bd3 Ba6 15.Bxa6 Rxa6 16.0-0 0-0 17.Ra4 Bxd2 18.Qxd2 Rb8 19.Rfa1* Situru,N-Martinez,R (ch) India 1988*)* 8...b4 9.f5 bxc3 10.fxe6 fxe6 11.bxc3 cxd4 12.cxd4 Bb4+ 13.Bd2 0-0 14.Bxb4 Nxb4 15.Qd2 Qa5 16.Kf2 Nb6 17.Rb1 Nc6 18.Qxa5 Nxa5 19.Nc3 Sax,G (2605)-Kortschnoj,V (2615) 51/(271) Wijk aan Zee 1991]
[7...Qb6 8.Nf3 f6 9.g3 cxd4 10.cxd4 Bb4+ 11.Nc3 0-0 12.a3 Be7 Cuddihy,P olm2 qual GP2 B2 corr ICCF corr 1948]
8.Nf3 b5 9.g4 h5 White is better. **10.gxh5 Rxh5 11.f5 exf5 12.Nf4 Rh8 13.Nxd5 Bb7**

(Diagram)



…Ncxe5! would now be deadly. **14.Bg2! Nb6 15.Nxb6 Qxb6 16.0-0 0-0-0** 1.21/22
[16...Ne7± 0.65/22]
17.a4 b4 18.Qc2 g6 19.Bg5 Rd7 20.Qe2 Na5 21.Rfe1 Rh5 1.30/21
[Black should play 21...Be7 0.86/21]
22.e6 0.04/24
[22.h4± 1.30/21]
22...fxe6= 23.Qxe6 Qxe6 24.Rxe6



aiming for Re8+. **24...Bxf3 25.Re8+ Kc7 26.Bf4+ Bd6 27.Bxd6+ Kxd6 28.Bxf3 bxc3 29.bxc3 Rh3 30.Kg2**

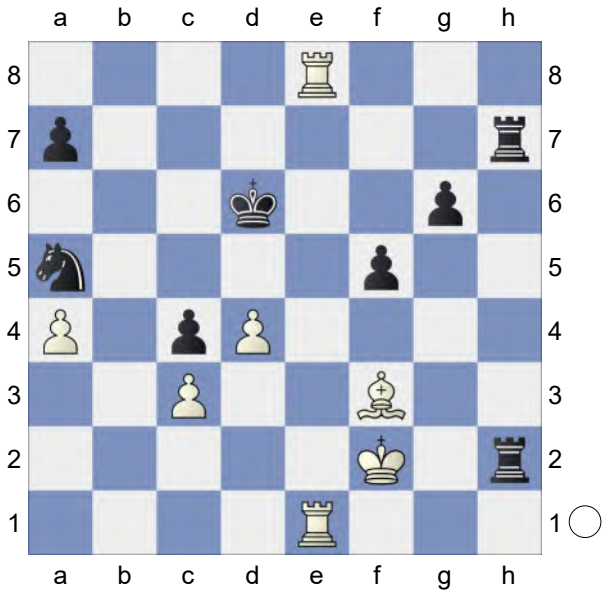
Rdh7 31.Rae1 Rxh2+ 32.Kg1 R2h3 0.47/27
[32...Rc2= 0.09/20]
33.Kf2!± White has compensation. **33...Rh2+ 34.Kg1** Hoping for R8e6+. White is much more active. **34...R2h3** Weighted Error Value: White=0.18 (very precise) /Black=0.12 (very precise)
½-½

266 **C11**
□ **Rathnakaran,Kantholi** **2372**
■ **Naiditsch,Arkadij** **2701**
New Delhi Parsvnath op-A 16th (3)
[Moskalenko,V, MH]

Here is the transposition from the Classical French variation: C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 Knaak,Rainer: 'Neven,K;Knaak,R; Bareev,E(NIC): 'Knaak,R: 'Inf 51/(271)'"
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 c4N 0.85/25
[7...Be7= 0.18/20 keeps the balance. 8.Nf3 a5 9.g3 a4 10.Bh3 g6 11.0-0 b5 12.a3 Nb6 4) French Classical Variation-French Classical Variation 1… e6 Against Everything 2024]
[7...cxd4 8.cxd4 Bb4+ 9.Bd2 Bxd2+ 10.Qxd2 0-0 11.Nf3 f6 12.h4 Qe7 13.Rh3 b6 14.Nc3 Bb7 15.Bd3 Rac8 16.Rd1 a6 17.Qe2 f5 18.Bxa6 Bxa6 19.Qxa6 Na5 20.Qe2 Nc4 21.Kf1 Qb4 22.Rb1 1-0 10.Ne6 Qb6 (2479)-Strange,M (2481) Kobenhavn 82/519 2001 (6)]
[7...b5 8.Nf3 *(8.a3 cxd4 9.Nxd4 Nxd4 10.cxd4 b4 11.axb4 Bxb4+ 12.Bd2 Qb6 13.Nf3 a5 14.Bd3 Ba6 15.Bxa6 Rxa6 16.0-0 0-0 17.Ra4 Bxd2 18.Qxd2 Rb8 19.Rfa1* Situru,N-Martinez,R (ch) India 1988*)* 8...b4 9.f5 bxc3 10.fxe6 fxe6 11.bxc3 cxd4 12.cxd4 Bb4+ 13.Bd2 0-0 14.Bxb4 Nxb4 15.Qd2 Qa5 16.Kf2 Nb6 17.Rb1 Nc6 18.Qxa5 Nxa5 19.Nc3 Sax,G (2605)-Kortschnoj,V (2615) 51/(271) Wijk aan Zee 1991]
[7...Qb6 8.Nf3 f6 9.g3 cxd4 10.cxd4 Bb4+ 11.Nc3 0-0 12.a3 Be7 Cuddihy,P olm2 qual GP2 B2 corr ICCF corr 1948]
8.Nf3 And so we have reached the main position of the old system. **8...b5**
[Remember, 8...Nb6!? 9.g4 h5 10.gxh5 Rxh5 1 - Petrosian, Game]
9.g4 h5!? If we compare with the Petrosian 'barricades' (... ♘b6, without ... b7-b5), the Botvinnik plan (...b7-b5) makes easier White's break with f4-f5. Therefore, these lines can be all the more dynamic. White is better.
[The safest option is 9...Nb6!? 1.30/18 3 9...h5 0.89 - back to Games 2 and]
10.gxh5 Rxh5 11.f5!? A new idea of Parviz Gasimov. **11...exf5**
[11...Rxf5?! 1.50/20 11...exf5 0.61 12.Ng3±]
[11...Nb6? 12.Nf4 *(12.fxe6!?+-)* 12...Rh8 13.fxe6 Bxe6 14.Nxe6 fxe6 15.Ng5 And now Qg4! would win. Be7 3.16/24 *(15...Kd7* 1.71/18 keeps fighting. *16.Qg4 Qe8)* 16.Qg4 Bxg5 17.Qxe6+ Kf8 3.37/21 *(17...Be7* 2.17/21 might work better.*)* 18.Be2? 0.60/23 *(18.Bh3+-* 3.37/21 Threatens to win with Bxg5. *Bh4+ 19.Kd1)* 18...Bh4+± 19.Kd1 Rf1+ is the strong threat. Ne7 1.45/24 *(19...Qd7!±* 0.53/22 *20.Rf1+ Bf6)* 20.Rf1+ Ke8 21.Bg4 Rf8? #4/18 Against Qf7+ *(21...Qb8±* 1.18/20 *)* 22.Bh5+ 1-0 Gasimov,P (2323)-

Huguet Mainar,S (2099) Baku 2016]
12.Nf4 Rh8 13.Nxd5∞ 0.34/26 Black's position looks a little dangerous, but the same dynamics saves the 'French' army.
[White should play 13.h4± 0.78/22]
13...Bb7
[13...Nb6!? 14.Nxb6 axb6 15.Bg2 Black must now prevent d5. Be6! 16.Ng5 Bd5 17.Qe2 aiming for 0-0. Be7! 18.e6 Bxg5 19.exf7+! Kxf7 20.Bxg5 Qd6! seems to be a balanced line]
14.Bg2! Nb6
[14...Ne7!?]
15.Nxb6 Qxb6 16.0-0 0-0-0 1.27/22
[16...Ne7!± 0.54/21]
17.a4 b4 18.Qc2 g6 19.Bg5 Rd7 20.Qe2 Na5 21.Rfe1 Rh5!? 22.e6 0.04/23 This move forces a draw.
[22.h4!?]
[22.h4± 1.25/21]
22...fxe6= 23.Qxe6 Qxe6 24.Rxe6 Bxf3 25.Re8+ Kc7 26.Bf4+ Bd6 27.Bxd6+ Kxd6 28.Bxf3 bxc3 29.bxc3 Rh3 30.Kg2 Rdh7 31.Rae1 Rxh2+ 32.Kg1 R2h3?! 0.64/28 An inaccuracy.
[32...Rc2!=]
[32...Rc2= 0.00/22]
33.Kf2!± Strongly threatening R8e6+. White has compensation. White is much more active. **33...Rh2+**

(Diagram)



34.Kg1 Hoping for R8e6+.
[34.Bg2!]
34...R2h3 Weighted Error Value: White=0.21 (precise) /Black=0.15 (very precise)
½-½

267 **C11**
□ **Arun,Kataria** **2370**
■ **Zhukova,Natalia** **2302**
Masters Open 2024 (5.60) 07.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.a3 b5 9.dxc5** 9.Bd3 is more advanced technology. 9.Ld3 ist hochmodern. **9...Bxc5 10.Bxc5 Nxc5** White is slightly better. **11.b4 Nd7 12.Bd3 Qb6**
[12...f6 13.0-0 0-0 14.exf6 Qxf6 15.Ne2 h6 16.Qd2 Nb6 17.Rae1 Bd7 18.Qe3 Nc4 19.Bxc4 bxc4 20.Nfd4 Ne7 21.Ng3 Rae8 22.c3 Ng6 23.Rf2 Qh4 24.Ref1 Rf6 25.Nge2 Rff8 26.Nf3 Qf6 27.Ne5

½-½ Panesar,V (2387)-Iskusnyh,S (2440) Aimchess Play In op Chess.com INT rapid 2023 (8)]

13.Qd2 Bb7N

[13...h6 14.h4 *(14.Ne2 a5 15.Rb1 axb4 16.axb4 0-0 17.Ned4 Nxd4 18.Nxd4 Qxd4 19.Bh7+* Chapter French Steinitz-7...a6 #2 Lifetime Repertoires: Sethuraman's 1.e *)* 14...0-0 15.g4 f6 16.exf6 Nxf6 17.g5 Ng4 18.gxh6 Nxh6 19.Rg1 Ra7 20.0-0-0 Nf5 21.Rde1 Ncd4 22.Nxd4 Qxd4 23.Rg5 Raf7 24.Re5 Rc7 25.Nb1 Rd8 26.c3 Kf8 27.Kb2 Qb6 28.Bxf5 ½-½ Soumya,S (2273)-Chitlange,S (2250) IND-ch (Women) 49th Ahmedabad 2023 (9)]

14.Ne2 f6 15.exf6 gxf6 16.0-0-0 'N'

[16.Nc3 is interesting. 0-0-0 17.Qf2 Kc7 18.f5]

[16.a4 bxa4 17.c3 a5 18.b5 Ne7 19.Ng3 Nc5 20.Qe3 d4 21.cxd4 Nb3 22.Rxa4 Nd5 23.Qf2 Nxf4 24.Be2 h5 25.h4 Rg8 26.0-0 Rxg3 0-1 Ermitsch,M (2150)-Vogel,C (2190) Berlin BSV IM 2022 (3)]

16...0-0-0! 17.g4 Kb8 18.g5 e5 0.47/21

[18...a5= 0.00/20]

19.Bf5!± Bxd7 would now be deadly.

19...e4 20.Nfd4 Ne7 1.30/19

[20...fxg5± 0.58/20 21.Bxd7 Rxd7]

21.Bh3 Qd6 22.Bxd7 Rxd7 23.Nb3 And now Nc5 would win. Excellent horsemanship. **23...f5** 1.61/22

[23...Nf5± 0.73/18 is a better defense.]

24.Nc5+- Rc7 25.Nd4 Bc8 26.h4 h5 27.gxh6 Rxh6 1.57/21

[Better is 27...Nc6 1.17/22]

28.h5± White is much more active.

28...Ng8 1.88/19

[28...Nc6± 1.33/18 was necessary.]

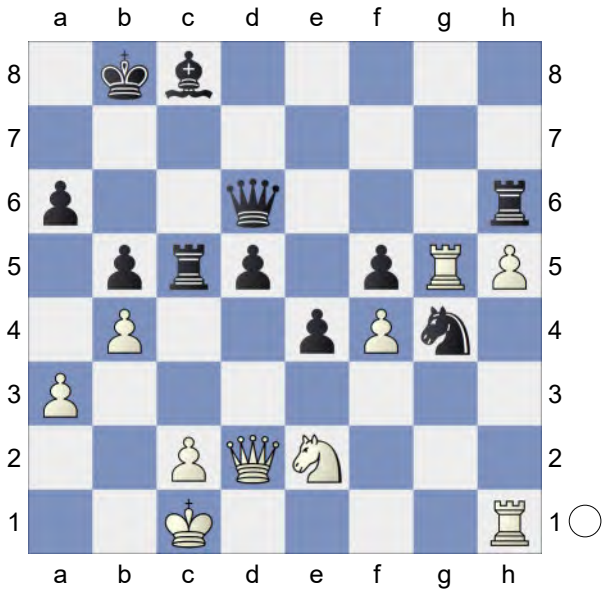
29.Rdg1+- Nf6 30.Rg5 Ng4 31.Ne2 1.26/19

[31.Nxf5 Qf6 32.Nd4 *(32.Nxh6? Qa1#)* 32...e3=]

[White should try 31.Rh3+- 1.71/20]

31...Rxc5?? 3.79/21

[31...e3± 1.26/19 32.Qd4 Qf6]



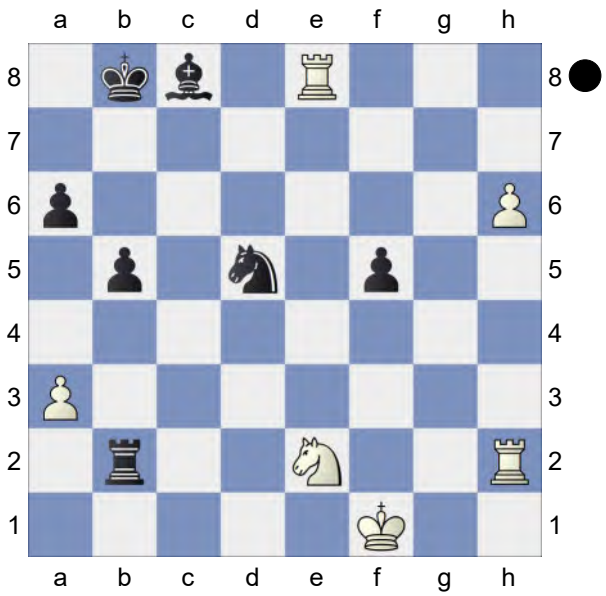
This costs Black the game. **32.bxc5 Qxc5 33.Qc3** Wards off Nf2 **33...Qxc3 34.Nxc3 d4 35.Ne2 d3 36.cxd3 Rc6+ 37.Kd2 e3+ 38.Ke1 Nf2 39.Rh2 Nxd3+ 40.Kf1 Rc2 41.Rg3 Rb2** 5.52/21

[⌓41...Rd2 3.49/22 42.Rxe3 Bb7 43.Rxd3 *(43.Re8+ Ka7∓)* 43...Rxd3]

42.Rxe3 White is clearly winning.

42...Nxf4 43.h6 Nd5 44.Re8

(Diagram)

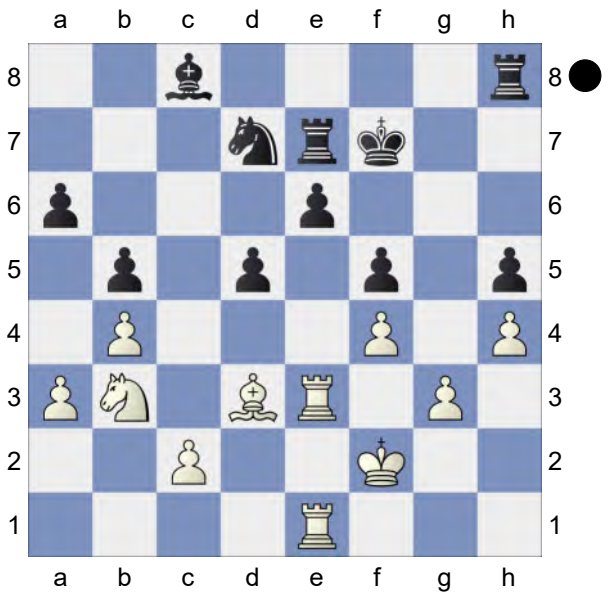


aiming for h7. **44...Nf6 45.h7 Rb1+ 46.Kg2** Weighted Error Value: White=0.12 (very precise) /Black=0.44
1-0

268 **C11**
☐ **Shturman,Arseniy** **2350**
■ **Xu,Zhihang** **2511**
Masters Open 2024 (3.30) 05.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.a3 b5 9.dxc5** 9.Bd3 is the modern continuation. 9.Ld3 ist die moderne Fortsetzung. **9...Bxc5 10.Bxc5 Nxc5** White has an edge. **11.b4 Nd7 12.Bd3 Qb6**
[12...f6 13.0-0 0-0 14.exf6 Qxf6 15.Ne2 h6 16.Qd2 Nb6 17.Rae1 Bd7 18.Qe3 Nc4 19.Bxc4 bxc4 20.Nfd4 Ne7 21.Ng3 Rae8 22.c3 Ng6 23.Rf2 Qh4 24.Ref1 Rf6 25.Nge2 Rff8 26.Nf3 Qf6 27.Ne5 ½-½ Panesar,V (2387)-Iskusnyh,S (2440) Aimchess Play In op Chess. com INT rapid 2023 (8)]
13.Qd2 Bb7N
[13...h6 14.h4 *(14.Ne2 a5 15.Rb1 axb4 16.axb4 0-0 17.Ned4 Nxd4 18.Nxd4 Qxd4 19.Bh7+* Chapter French Steinitz-7...a6 #2 Lifetime Repertoires: Sethuraman's 1.e *)* 14...0-0 15.g4 f6 16.exf6 Nxf6 17.g5 Ng4 18.gxh6 Nxh6 19.Rg1 Ra7 20.0-0-0 Nf5 21.Rde1 Ncd4 22.Nxd4 Qxd4 23.Rg5 Raf7 24.Re5 Rc7 25.Nb1 Rd8 26.c3 Kf8 27.Kb2 Qb6 28.Bxf5 ½-½ Soumya,S (2273)-Chitlange,S (2250) IND-ch (Women) 49th Ahmedabad 2023 (9)]
14.Qf2 Rc8 15.Ne2
[15.Qg3 keeps more tension. Nd4 16.Qxg7 Rxc3 17.Qxh8+ Ke7 18.Kd2]
15...Qxf2+ 16.Kxf2 f6 17.exf6 gxf6 18.Ned4 -0.05/21
[18.Rhe1± 0.38/20]
18...Kf7 0.48/19 'N'
[18...e5= -0.05/21 19.Nxc6 Bxc6 20.Bf5 0-0 21.Rad1 d4 22.Rhe1 Rc7 23.Rd2 Kg7 24.Kg3 Nb6 25.fxe5 fxe5 ½-½ Wink,L (1934)-Elgersma,O (2259) Hoorn Romero op 2023 (2)]
19.Nxc6 Bxc6 20.Rhe1 Nb6 0.58/22
[20...h5= 0.19/21]
21.Nd4 0.04/24
[White should play 21.g4± 0.58/22]
21...Bd7= 22.Nb3 Na4 23.Re3 h5 24.h4 Rce8 25.Rae1 Bc8 26.g3 Bd7 27.Bf1 Nb6 28.Nc5 Bc8! 29.Bh3 f5 30.Bf1 Re7 31.Nb3 Nd7 32.Bd3

(Diagram)



Threatens to win with Bxf5! **32...Rhe8 33.Nd4 Nf6 34.Kf1 Ne4 35.Bxe4 dxe4 36.Nc6 Rc7 37.Rc3 Kf6** Wards off Ne5 **38.Ree3 Bb7 39.Ne5 Rec8 40.Rxc7 Rxc7∓** Endgame. KRB-KRN **41.c3 Bd5 42.Ke2 Ke7 43.Kd2! Rc8 44.Kc2 Kd6 45.Kb2 Kc7** -0.18/26

[45...Rg8∓ -0.55/26 deserves consideration.]

46.Re1 Weighted Error Value: White=0.11 (very precise) /Black=0.09 (flawless)

½-½

269 **C11**

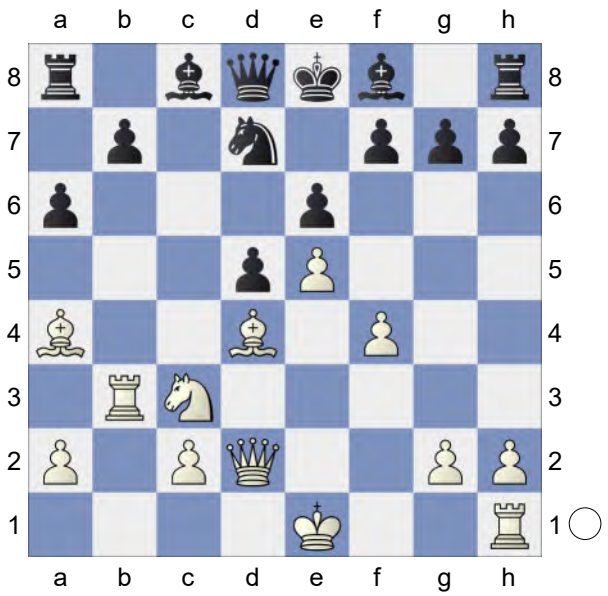
□ **Tissir,Mohamed** **2342**

■ **Vantika,Agrawal** **2392**

Masters Open 2024 (5.52) 07.12.2024

[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Qb6 9.Qd2 Qxb2 10.Rb1 Qa3 11.Bb5 Nxd4 12.Bxd4** And now Rb3 would win. **12...a6 13.Rb3** White has compensation. The position is equal. **13...Qe7 14.Ba4 Qd8**



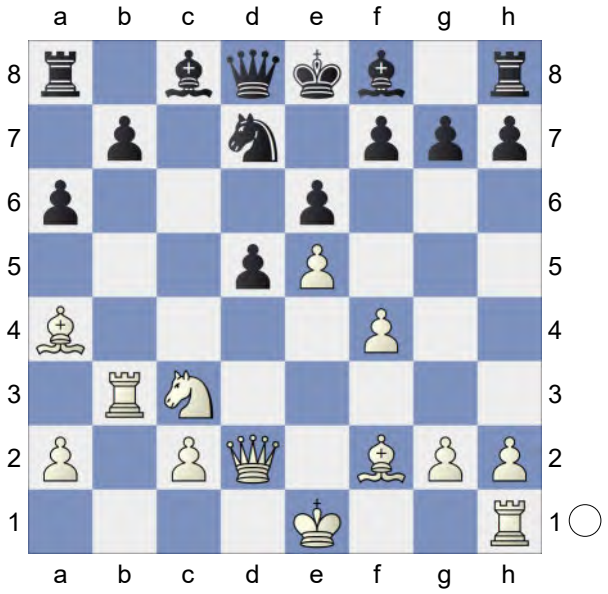
aiming for ...b5. **15.Bb6 Qh4+ 16.Bf2N**

[16.g3

A) 16...Qh3 17.Rf1 *(17.Ne4 Be7 18.Nc5 Bxc5 19.Bxc5 b5 20.Ba3 Nb6 21.Qb4 Ra7 22.Bxb5+ axb5 23.Qxb5+ Nd7 24.Rc3 f6 25.Rxc8+ Kf7 26.Rxh8 Qg2 27.Rf1 Qxc2 28.Bb2 Qxh2 29.Qe2* 1-0 Sasikiran,K (2660)-Van Haastert,E (2439) 142/96 Ulcinj 2019 *)* 17...Qf5 18.g4 Qxg4 19.f5 Be7 20.f6 gxf6 21.Rf4 The French Steinitz-Poisoned Pawn Variation 14...Qd8 2013;

B) 16...Qg4 17.Ne4 *(17.0-0 Be7 18.f5 0-0 19.Rf4 Bg5 20.Rxg4 Bxd2 21.Bxd7 Bxd7 22.f6 g6 23.Nd1 Rfc8 24.c3 h5 25.Rd4 Bh6 26.Kf2 a5 27.Rb2 a4 28.Rd3 a3 29.Rb1 Ba4 30.Ne3 Rc6 31.Bd4 b5* 0-1 Topalov,V (2749)-Grischuk,A (2761) Paris GCT Rapid 2017 (4) *)* 17...Be7 18.Nc5 Bxc5 19.Bxc5 b5 20.Ba3 Nxe5 21.fxe5 Qe4+ 22.Kf2 Qxh1 23.Qb4 Qxh2+ 24.Kf1 Qh1+ 25.Kf2 Qh2+ ½-½ Perunovic,M (2539)-Pastar,S (2311) Crna 153/113 Gori 2022]

16...Qd8 Hoping for ...b5. **17.Bb6 Qh4+ 18.Bf2 Qd8**



Strongly threatening ...b5. **19.Bb6** A rather calm draw. Weighted Error Value: White=0.04 (flawless) /Black=0.00 (flawless)
½-½

270 **C11**
□ **Sendur,Adnan** **2335**
■ **Kaidanov,Gregory S** **2624**
Olympiad-34 Istanbul (1.2) 28.10.2000
[Ftacnik,Lubomir, MH]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4** Ftacnik,L Ftacnik Ftacnik Ftacnik: 'Ftacnik,L' **1...e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 Qb6 8.Nf3 f6 9.a3 a5N**
[9...Be7 10.h4 0-0 11.Rh3 *(11.b4 cxd4 12.cxd4 a5 13.b5 Qxb5 14.Nc3 Qb6 15.Rb1 Qd8 16.Bd3 h6 17.Nb5 Ra6 18.Bc2 f5 19.g4 Nb6 20.gxf5 exf5 21.Bd3 Na8 22.Kf2 Rb6 23.Qg1 Nc7 24.Nxc7 Qxc7 25.Rxb6 Qxb6* ½-½ 4.h3 Bg7 5.Nf3 de4 6.Ne (2582)-10.dc5 Bc5 11.Bd2 (2734) Nanjing 2010 (7)) 11...a5 12.b3 Qd8 13.Ng3 h6 14.Be3 f5 15.Bd3 cxd4 16.cxd4 Nb6 17.Nh5 Qe8 18.Nh2 g6 19.Nf6+ Bxf6 20.exf6 Nd7 21.h5 Nxf6 22.hxg6 Qxg6 23.g4 French-7.f4 Qb6 8.Nf3 Survey 2020]
10.g4?! Even without this weakening move white faces challenging task of keeping the exposed center intact.
[10.g3! Be7 11.Bh3
A) 11...cxd4 12.cxd4 Ndb8 0.99/23 *(12...fxe5* 1.14/20 12...a4 0.24 *13.fxe5 0-0 14.Nf4±; 12...a4!±* 0.38/23 *)* 13.0-0 0-0 14.Kh1 Na6 15.Nc3 Nc7 16.Be3 Bd7 1.51/22 *(*Better is *16...f5* 1.06/20 *)* 17.exf6 Bxf6 18.Na4 Qa7 19.Nc5 Bc8 20.Rc1 1-0 Van der Wiel,J-Van Driel,E/Vlissingen/1997/ (28);
B) 11...a4= 0.20/22 remains equal.;
C) 11...Nf8 1.02/22
C1) 12.exf6?! Bxf6 13.Be3∞ c4 1.28/22 *(⌓13...Qxb2* 0.79/23 *14.0-0 c4)* 14.Qd2± Ng6 15.Ne5 Nge7 16.g4 g6 1.47/20 *(⌓16...Bh4+* 0.84/19 *17.Ng3 Nxe5 18.dxe5 Qc6)* 17.Ng3± Qc7 18.a4 Bg7 0-1 Ivanov,A-Bykhovsky,A/New York/1990/(56);
C2) 12.f5 -0.22/23 12.exf6 1.13 cxd4 13.cxd4 fxe5 14.dxe5 Bc5 0.83/20 *(14...exf5=* -0.21/23 *15.Nf4 a4)* 15.Nf4± Ne7 2.17/19 *(15...h6±* 0.90/21 *)* 16.Ng5? -0.26/23 *(16.f6+-* 2.17/19 Strongly threatening fxg7! *gxf6 17.exf6)* 16...exf5= 17.Nxd5 Nxd5 18.Qxd5 Ne6 aiming for ... Nxg5. 19.Nf3? -3.93/20

(19.Bxf5= -0.24/20 Nxg5 20.Bxc8 Nf3+ 21.Qxf3 Rxc8 22.Rf1) 19...0-0-+ 20.Rf1 Kh8 21.Qd3 Nd4 0-1 Galje,H-Kaminik,A/Graz/1996/ (26);

C3) 12.0-0 a4 1.53/23 *(⌓12...f5 0.81/21)* 13.exf6± gxf6 2.02/19 *(13...Bxf6± 1.45/21 14.dxc5 Qxc5+ 15.Ned4 Ng6)* 14.f5!+- cxd4 15.cxd4 e5 16.Nc3 Ra5 17.Kh1 dxe5 would now be deadly. e4 2.60/21 *(⌓17...exd4 1.86/20 18.Nxa4 Qa7)* 18.Nh4+- Qxd4 19.Qh5+ Kd8 20.Rd1 Qc4 21.Bf1 Qb3 22.Nxe4 0.72/20 1-0 Vasiukov,E-Kaminik,A/Bad Wildbad/1993/ (32) *(⌓22.Bd2 1.56/20)*]

10...Be7 11.Bg2 -0.44/21

[11.Bh3!? -0.48/24 11.g5 0.43 cxd4 12.cxd4 fxe5 13.fxe5 0-0 14.Rf1∞]

[11.g5!± 0.31/24]

11...0-0 Black is slightly better. **12.Qd3?** -2.26/20

[12.Rf1 a4!∓]

[12.g5∓ -0.39/24]

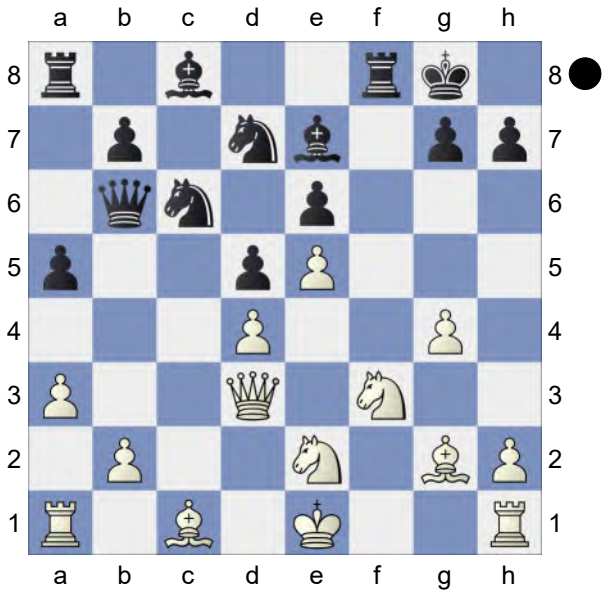
12...cxd4-+ 13.cxd4

[13.Nexd4? -3.10/22 13.cxd4 -1.68 fxe5 14.Nxc6 -4.56/21 *(14.Nxe6* -3.13/19 was called for. *e4 15.Qe2 exf3 16.Bxf3 Bh4+ 17.Kf1)* 14...bxc6-+ 15.fxe5 Nxe5 16.Nxe5 Qf2+-+]

13...fxe5 14.fxe5

[14.dxe5 Nc5∓]

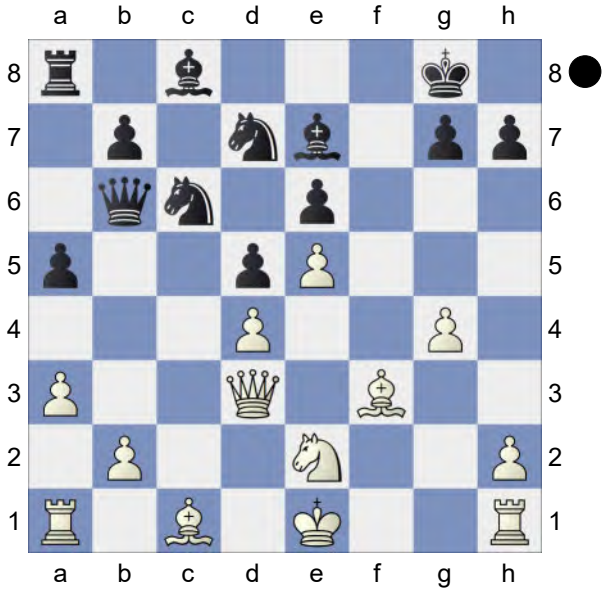
(Diagram)



14...Rxf3! Very logical sacrifice with the main idea of pawn chain elimination. White pieces are poorly coordinated and the king is in danger sitting in the center.

15.Bxf3

[15.Qxf3 Nxd4 -1.35/20 *(Black should try 15...Bh4+-+* -2.32/23 *16.Kd2 Nxd4 17.Nxd4 Qxd4+ 18.Kc2 Nxe5)* 16.Nxd4∓ Qxd4 17.Qf4 Bh4+ 18.Ke2 Qxe5+∓]



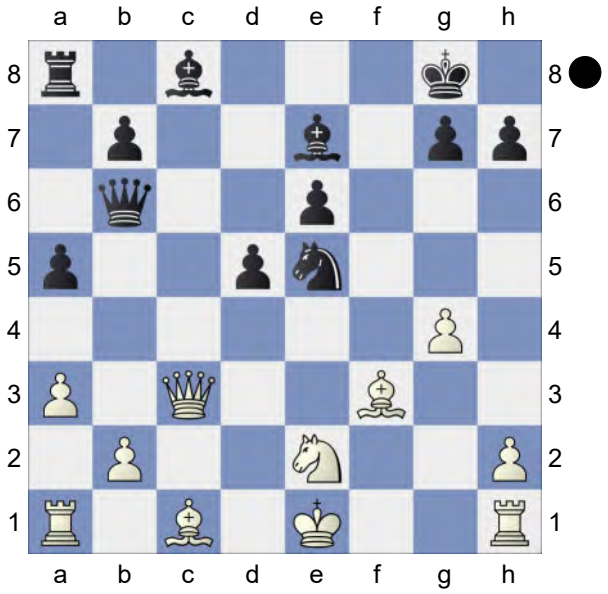
15...Ndxe5! 16.dxe5

[16.Qe3 -3.73/24 16.dxe5 -2.46 Nxf3+

17.Qxf3 Threatens to win with 0-0. Bh4+ 18.Kf1 Bd7-+]

16...Nxe5 17.Qe3

[17.Qc3



d4! 18.Nxd4 Qxd4 19.Rf1 Bh4+ 20.Ke2 Qa4 21.Bg2? -5.55/19 *(21.Qxe5* -2.68/22 keeps fighting. *Qc4+* Skewer, Deflection *22.Kd2 Qxf1 23.Qe2)* 21...Bd7!-+ (→ ... Bb5+) 22.Qxe5 Qxg4+-+]

17...Qxe3 18.Bxe3 Nxf3+ 19.Kf2

[19.Kd1 Bd7 White must now prevent ...e5. 20.b3 e5∓]

19...Ne5 20.Bd4

[20.h3 Nd3+ 21.Kf3 Nxb2-+]

20...Nxg4+ 21.Kg3 Nh6 Only rarely can a player claim compensation in three healthy pawns after the exchange sacrifice. White position is simply hopeless. **22.Be5 Nf7 23.Bc7**

[23.Bc3 e5-+]

23...e5 24.b4 Ra6!

[24...axb4? -0.55/21 24...h5 -3.42 25.axb4 Ra6! 26.Rxa6 bxa6 27.Rc1 -1.76/23 *(27.b5!∓* -0.68/20 *axb5 28.Ra1)* 27...Bf5-+]

[24...axb4 25.axb4 Ra6 26.Rxa6 bxa6 27.Rc1=]

25.Rhc1

[25.Bxa5? -4.44/18 25.bxa5 -2.82 b6 26.Rhc1 Nd6-+]

25...Rg6+

[25...axb4 26.axb4 Rg6+ *(26...Bxb4 27.Rxa6 bxa6 28.Bxe5∓)* 27.Kf2∓]

26.Kf2 Bg4

[26...axb4 27.axb4 Rf6+ *(27...Bxb4?* perishes. *28.Ra8+-)* 28.Kg1=]

27.bxa5

[27.Bxa5? b6-+]

27...Ng5! 28.Ng3

[28.Bxe5? Re6-+]

28...Rf6+ 29.Kg1?! -#3/13

[29.Ke3 Rf3+ 30.Kd2 Ne6-+]

[29.Kg2 Bh3+ 30.Kg1 Kf7-+ -2.03/19 *(⌓30...d4* -3.81/20 *31.Rab1 Be6)*]

[29.Kg2-+ -4.07/19 Bh3+ 30.Kg1]

29...Nh3+ Black took control after the opening. Weighted Error Value: White=0.67/Black=0.05 (flawless)

[29...Nh3+ 30.Kg2 Rf2+ 31.Kh1 Bf3#]

0-1

271 **C11**

□ **Braun,Andreas** **2321**

■ **Caldwell,Justin** **2391**

CM.2000.0.00114 2000

[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 Be7 8.Nf3 f6 9.a3**

[9.g3 0-0 10.Bh3 Kh8 11.0-0 fxe5 12.dxe5 Nb6 13.b3 d4 14.cxd4 cxd4 15.Bb2 Bc5 16.Nexd4 Qd5 17.Kh1 Bd7 18.Bg2 Rad8 19.Ng5 Nxd4 20.Bxd5 Nxd5 21.Bxd4 Bc6 22.Bxc5 Nxf4+ 23.Qf3 Bxf3+

1-0 9. ♘d2 a5/ 14. ♕c2 ♘gf6 1 (2641)-Moennich,M (2270) (izt) 49/325 1990 (11)]

9...0-0 10.Neg1N -0.91/20

[10.b4= 0.11/21 cxd4 11.Nexd4 Nxd4 12.cxd4 *(12.Qxd4 a5 13.Bd3 axb4 14.cxb4 fxe5 15.fxe5 Qb6 16.Bb2 Qxd4 17.Bxd4 Rf4* Steinitz Variante-13 | Steinitz mit 5.f4 + 7.Se *)* 12...f5 Quickstarter Guide Steinitz-Nce2]

[10.g3 cxd4 11.cxd4 fxe5 12.dxe5 Qa5+ 13.Nc3 d4 14.Nxd4 Ndxe5 15.fxe5 Rd8 16.Bg2 Qxe5+ 17.Qe2 Qxd4 18.Be3 Qd3 #1 Classical Nce2-6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 with 9.a3]

10...fxe5 -0.41/20

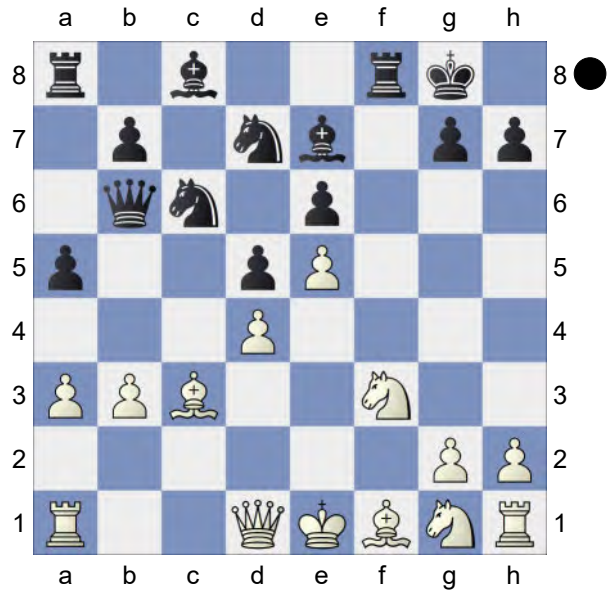
[10...cxd4∓ -0.91/20 11.cxd4 Qa5+ 12.Bd2 Qb6]

11.fxe5∓ cxd4 12.cxd4 Qa5+ 0.55/18

[12...b5= -0.09/20]

13.Bd2± Qb6 14.Bc3 a5 15.b3? -3.55/19

[15.Bd3± 1.21/18 keeps the pressure on.]



Now White is beyond hope.

15...Ndxe5!-+ 16.dxe5 Qe3+ 17.Ne2 Rxf3 18.Qd2 Qxd2+ 19.Kxd2 Bg5+ 20.Kc2 Rf2 21.Rd1 Bd7 22.Kb1 Rc8 23.h4 Be7 24.Bb2 Be8 ...Bh5 is the strong threat. **25.h5 Rf5 26.g3** -3.42/21

[⌓26.g4 -2.05/19 Rf2 27.Re1]

26...Rxh5

[26...Nxe5 27.Bh3 Nf3 28.Bxf5 exf5 29.Rxd5=]

27.Bh3 Rh6 aiming for ...Bg6+.

[27...Nxe5? loses. 28.Bxe6+ Kh8 29.Bxc8+-]

28.Bc1? -3.88/22

[28.Nf4 -1.77/21 Bf7 29.Nxd5]

28...g5 29.Bb2 Bg6+ Weighted Error Value: White=0.67/Black=0.29 (precise) . Loss on time!?

1-0

272 **C11**

□ **Jaiveer,Mahendru** **2271**

■ **Bukreev,Stanislav** **2384**

Masters Open 2024 (4.61) 06.12.2024

[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.Qd2 b5 9.h4 Qa5N**

[9...b4 10.Ne2 Be7 11.dxc5 Nxc5 12.Ng3 h5 13.Be2 g6 14.0-0 Na4 15.c3 bxc3 16.bxc3 Qa5 17.Rac1 Bd7 18.Rc2 Na7 19.Ng5 Nb5 20.f5 gxf5 21.Nxf7 d4 22.Nxf5 exf5 23.Nxh8 dxe3 24.Qd5 French-8.♕d2 b5 Survey 2020]

[9...Bb7 10.h5 Be7 *(10...h6 11.a3 Qa5 12.Rd1 b4 13.axb4 Qxb4 14.Be2 cxd4 15.Nxd4 Bc5 16.Nb3 Bb6 17.0-0 0-0 18.Bxb6 Qxb6+ 19.Kh2 a5 20.Na4 Qc7 21.Rf3 Rae8 22.Nac5 Nxc5 23.Nxc5 Nxe5 24.fxe5 Qxc5 25.Rg3* 0-1 Pranav,A

(2509)-Niemann,H (2667) Wch U20 60th Mexico City 2023 (10)) 11.dxc5 Nxc5 12.Bd3 Rc8 13.Bxc5 Bxc5 14.f5 Nb4 15.Qf4 Nxd3+ 16.cxd3 exf5 17.Qxf5 Rc7 18.d4 Bc8 19.Qf4 Be7 20.0-0 h6 21.Rac1 Be6 22.Ne2 0-0 23.Qg3 Rc4 24.b3 ½-½ 10.♔b1 b5 11.c5_13795_15163 (2780)-10.dc5 ♗c5 11. ♗d2_13770 (2635) CCOL3 prel2-01 corr ICCF 1955]

[9...Qb6 10.Rh3 cxd4 11.Nxd4 Nxd4 12.Bxd4 Bc5 13.0-0-0 Bb7 14.Re3 Bc6 15.Bxc5 Nxc5 16.Qd4 b4 17.Ne2 a5 18.f5 0-0-0 19.fxe6 fxe6 20.Nf4 Kb7 21.g3 Rhe8 22.Bh3 Re7 23.Kb1 Be8 24.a3 0-1 Dietzinger,U (2271)-Lie,K (2513) Chapter 4 (12) Game 1 (4.42)]

10.h5 h6 11.Ne2 b4 0.77/18

[11...Qxd2+= 0.22/17 keeps the balance. 12.Bxd2 b4]

12.g4 Be7 13.Bg2 Qc7 14.0-0 a5 15.Rae1 -0.27/18

[15.Rfc1± 0.31/17]

15...Ba6= 16.f5 Nb6 0.99/21

[16...cxd4= -0.03/17 remains equal. 17.Bf4 Qb6]

17.fxe6

[17.dxc5 Nc4 18.Qc1 Nxe3 19.Qxe3 Qa7-+]

17...fxe6 18.b3 Prevents Nc4

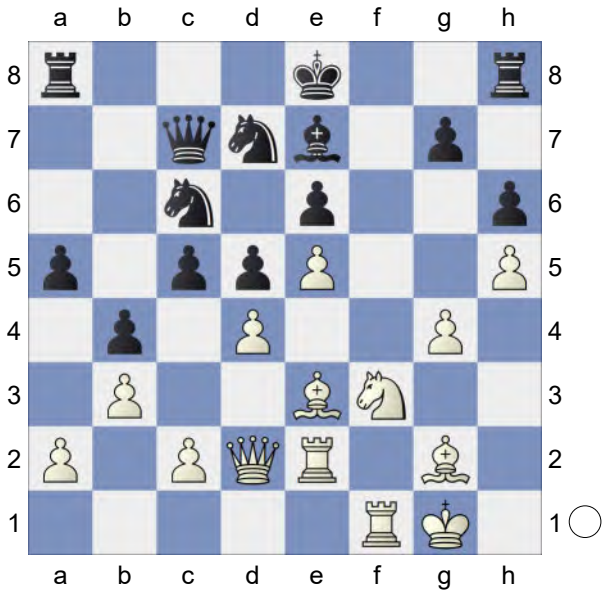
[18.dxc5? Nc4 19.Qc1 Nxe3 *(19...N4xe5 20.Nxe5 Qxe5 21.Kh1±; 19...N6xe5 20.Nf4±)* 20.Qxe3 Qa7-+]

[18.Nf4 feels hotter. Bxf1 19.Bxf1 0-0 20.Nxe6 Qd7 21.Nxf8 Rxf8 22.dxc5 Rxf3 23.cxb6 Bh4 24.Qd1]

18...Bxe2 19.Rxe2

[19.Qxe2 cxd4 20.Nxd4 Nxd4 21.Bxd4 Bc5 22.Bxc5 Qxc5+ 23.Kh2 Nd7=]

19...Nd7



20.Qd3! 0-0-0 21.c3↑ White has some pressure. **21...bxc3 22.Rc1 Nb4?** 2.10/18

[Black should try 22...cxd4± 0.59/22 23.Nxd4 Nxd4 24.Bxd4 Bb4]

23.Qxc3+- Na6? 3.36/17

[23...Rdf8 1.76/16 24.dxc5 Nc6]

24.dxc5 Bxc5 25.Bxc5 Ndxc5 26.Nd4 Qb6 27.Qe3 Kb7 28.Rd2? 1.24/17

[28.Rec2+- 3.42/18]

28...Rhe8? 3.09/21

[28...Rd7± 1.24/17 29.Kh1 Rc8]

29.Bf1? 1.20/16

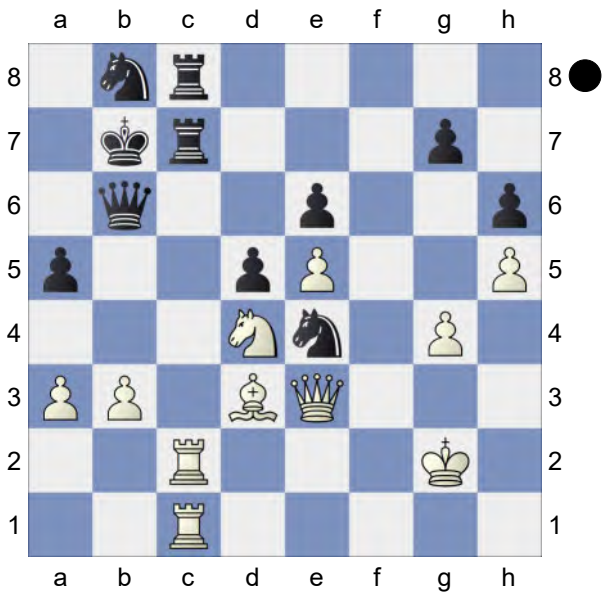
[29.Rdc2+- 3.09/21 has better winning chances.]

29...Rc8± 30.Bb5 0.45/18

[30.Rf2± 1.04/18 Hoping for Nb5. Rf8 31.Rxf8 Rxf8 32.g5]

30...Re7!± 31.a3 Rec7! 32.Rdc2 Nb8! ...Nxb3! would now be deadly. **33.Kg2 Ne4** aiming for ...Rxc2+. **34.Bd3** -1.93/23

[34.Rxc7+= 0.05/21 and White has nothing to worry. Rxc7 35.Rxc7+ Qxc7 36.Nxe6 Qxe5 37.Nc5+ Kc7 38.Nxe4 dxe4 39.Qg3 *(39.Qa7+ Kc8=)*]

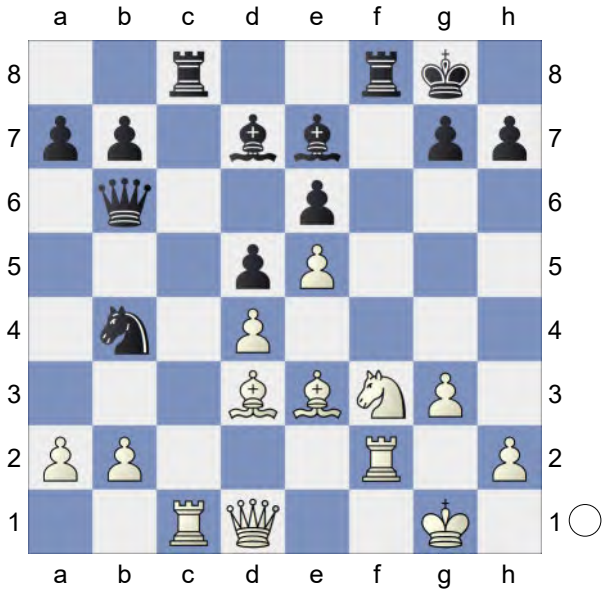


34...Rxc2+!-+ 35.Rxc2 Rxc2+ 36.Nxc2 Qxe3
[36...Qxb3? 37.Ba6+ *(37.Bxe4 Qxe3 38.Bxd5+ exd5±)* 37...Kxa6 38.Qxb3+-]
37.Nxe3 Endgame. KBN-KNN **37...Nc5**
38.Bh7 -3.60/21
[38.Bc2 -1.99/19 might work better.]
38...Nxb3 39.Bg8 Nc5 40.Kf3 Nbd7 41.Kf4 Nd3+ 42.Kg3 N7c5
[And not 42...N7xe5 43.Bxe6 d4 44.Nc2= *(44.Nf5 Nc5=)*]
43.Nc2 Kc7
[43...Nxe5? 44.Nd4-+]
44.Nd4 Kd7
[44...Nxe5 45.Bxe6 Nc6 46.Nxc6 Kxc6 47.Bf5-+]
45.Nf3 Ne4+ A dynamic duo of knights.
46.Kg2 Ng5 Against Bh7. What a bad dream for White. Weighted Error Value: White=0.48/Black=0.26 (precise)
0-1

273 **C11**
□ **Alarcon,Rolando** **2256**
■ **Valido,C..** **2307**
La 95/44 Havana 2005
[Kitty Kat]

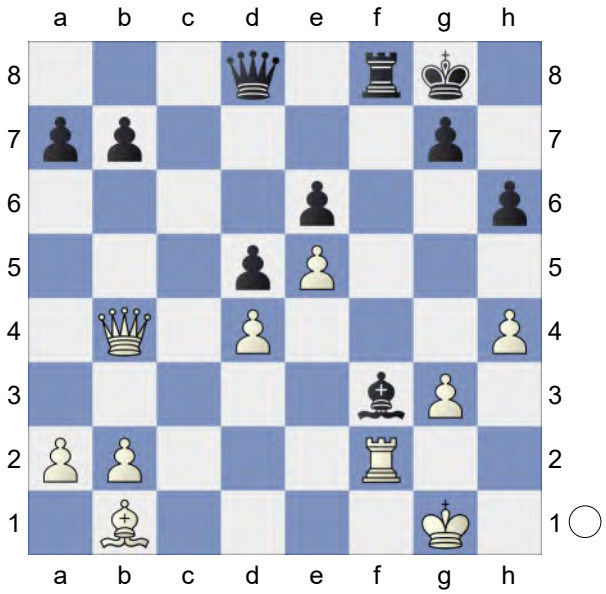
C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 Be7 8.Nf3 f6**
[8...a5 9.g3 a4 10.Bh3 g6 11.0-0 b5 12.a3 Nb6 4) French Classical Variation-French Classical Variation 1… e6 Against Everything 2024]
9.g3 cxd4N 0.60/20
[9...0-0= 0.15/21 10.Bh3 Kh8 11.0-0 fxe5 12.dxe5 Nb6 13.b3 d4 14.cxd4 cxd4 15.Bb2 Bc5 16.Nexd4 Qd5 17.Kh1 Bd7 18.Bg2 Rad8 19.Ng5 Nxd4 20.Bxd5 Nxd5 21.Bxd4 Bc6 22.Bxc5 Nxf4+ 23.Qf3 Bxf3+ 24.Rxf3 Rf5 1-0 9.♘d2 a5/ 14.♕c2 ♘gf6 1 (2641)-Moennich,M (2270) (izt) 49/325 1990 (11)]
10.cxd4 0.04/22
[Better is 10.Nexd4± 0.60/20 Nxd4 11.Nxd4]
10...Nf8 0.96/20
[10...0-0= 0.04/22]
11.Bg2 fxe5 1.13/22
[11...Ng6± 0.69/21]
12.fxe5±
[Don't play 12.Nxe5?! Ng6±]
[12.dxe5 Qa5+ 13.Bd2 Qb6±]
12...Ng6 13.0-0 0-0 14.Nf4 -0.11/21
[14.h4± 1.29/20]
14...Nxf4= 15.Bxf4 Qb6 0.32/23
[15...Bd7!= -0.15/20 feels stronger.]
16.Rf2± Bd7 17.Rc1 Rac8 0.81/21
[17...Be8± 0.40/21]
18.Be3 0.42/24
[White should play 18.h4± 0.81/21]
18...Qa6 1.23/21

[18...Qd8± 0.42/24]
19.Bf1± Qb6 1.68/20
[19...b5± 1.24/21 might work better.]
20.Bd3!+- Nb4



21.Rxc8 Rxc8 22.Bb1 Rf8 23.Bg5 Qd8 24.h4 Be8 25.Qb3 0.97/24
[⌓25.g4 1.53/24]
25...h6 26.Bd2 0.42/20
[26.Bxe7± 1.01/21 Qxe7 27.a3]
26...Bh5!± 27.Bxb4 Bxb4 28.Qxb4 Bxf3 3.00/25
[28...Rxf3± 0.53/24 29.Rxf3 *(29.Qxb7 Rxg3+ 30.Rg2 Rxg2+ 31.Kxg2 Qe8=)* 29...Bxf3]

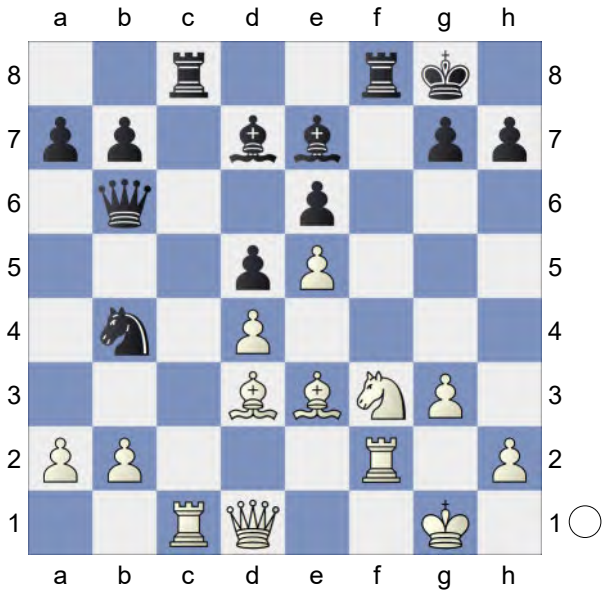
(Diagram)



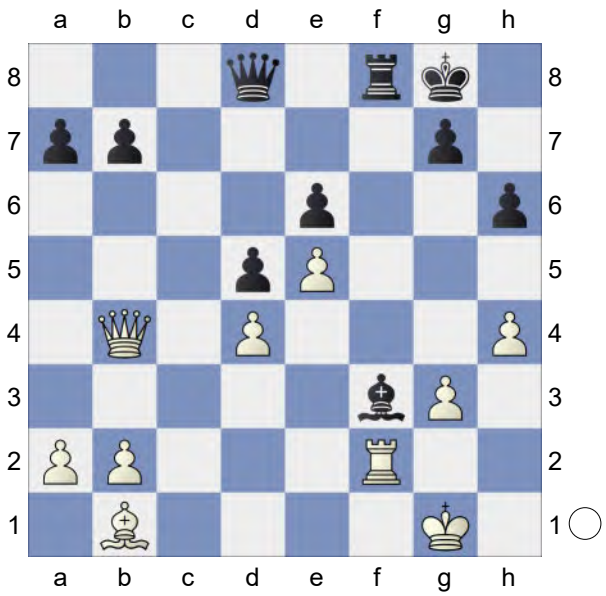
29.Qa3? 0.36/23
[Stronger than 29.Qxb7 Qa5 30.Kf1 Be2+ 31.Kxe2 Rxf2+ 32.Kxf2 Qd2+ 33.Kf3 Qd1+ 34.Ke3 Qe1+ 35.Kd3 Qxb1+ 36.Kd2 Qg1=]
[Only move: 29.Bg6!+- 3.00/25]
29...Qc8! 30.Rf1 Dodges Qc1 **30...Qc4!** The position is equal. **31.Qd3 Qxd3 32.Bxd3=** Endgame. aiming for Bg6. KRB-KRB **32...g5! 33.hxg5 hxg5 34.Rc1 Rf7 35.Rc8+ Kg7 36.Rc1 Bh5 37.Rc2 Bg6 38.Bxg6 Kxg6 39.Rf2** Wards off Rf3 **39...Rxf2 40.Kxf2** KP-KP **40...Kf5** Threatens to win with ...Ke4. **41.Kf3 g4+ 42.Ke3 a5 43.a4 b6** White really could win this. Weighted Error Value: White=0.27 (precise) / Black=0.29 (precise) . Loss on time!?
0-1

274 **C11**
□ **Alarcon,Ruy** **2255**
■ **Cordova,Emilio** **2429**
Lima olm qual (2) 02.04.2006
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 Be7 8.Nf3 f6**
[8...a5 9.g3 a4 10.Bh3 g6 11.0-0 b5 12.a3 Nb6 4) French Classical Variation-French Classical Variation 1… e6 Against Everything 2024]
9.g3 cxd4N
[9...0-0 10.Bh3 Kh8 11.0-0 fxe5 12.dxe5 Nb6 13.b3 d4 14.cxd4 cxd4 15.Bb2 Bc5 16.Nexd4 Qd5 17.Kh1 Bd7 18.Bg2 Rad8 19.Ng5 Nxd4 20.Bxd5 Nxd5 21.Bxd4 Bc6 22.Bxc5 Nxf4+ 23.Qf3 Bxf3+ 24.Rxf3 1-0 9.♘d2 a5/ 14.♕c2 ♘gf6 1 (2641)-Moennich,M (2270) (izt) 49/325 1990 (11)]
10.cxd4 0.15/23
[10.Nexd4± 0.53/20 Nxd4 11.cxd4]
10...Nf8 0.91/23
[10...0-0= 0.15/23 keeps the balance.]
11.Bg2 fxe5 1.20/21
[⌓11...Ng6 0.78/22]
12.fxe5±
[Don't do 12.Nxe5?! Ng6±]
[12.dxe5 Qa5+ 13.Nc3 Qb6±]
12...Ng6 13.0-0 0-0 14.Nf4 0.03/21
[14.h4± 1.32/20]
14...Nxf4= 15.Bxf4 Qb6 0.43/23
[15...Bd7= -0.19/20]
16.Rf2± Bd7 17.Rc1 Rac8 18.Be3 Qa6 1.28/20
[18...Qd8± 0.42/25]
19.Bf1± Qb6 20.Bd3 Nb4
(Diagram)



21.Rxc8 Rxc8 22.Bb1 Hoping for Ng5. **22...Rf8 23.Bg5 Qd8 24.h4** aiming for a3. **24...Be8 25.Qb3** 1.18/24
[Better is 25.g4+- 1.65/22]
25...h6 26.Bd2 0.37/20
[26.Bf4± 1.30/24]
26...Bh5!± 27.Bxb4 Bxb4 28.Qxb4 Bxf3 2.10/23
[28...Rxf3± 0.37/26 29.Rxf3 *(29.Qxb7 Rxg3+ 30.Rg2 Rxg2+ 31.Kxg2 Qe8=)* 29...Bxf3]



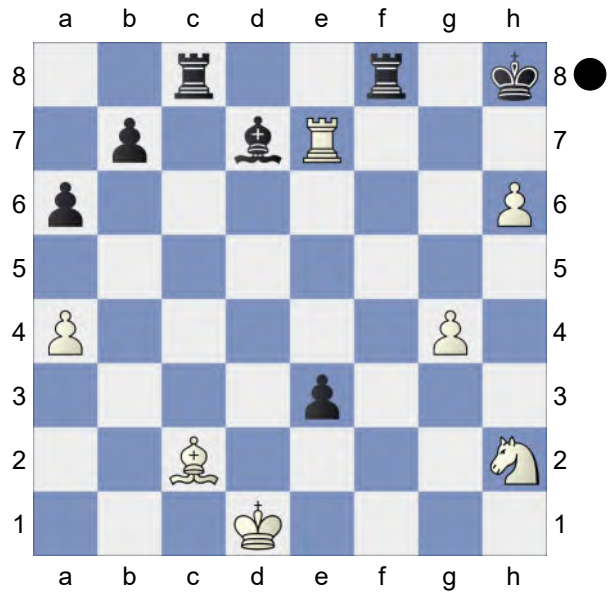
29.Qa3? 0.33/23

[Weaker is 29.Qxb7 Qa5 30.Kf1 Bg2+ 31.Kxg2 Rxf2+ 32.Kxf2 Qd2+ 33.Kf3 Qd1+ 34.Kf2 Qxb1=]
[29.Bg6!+- 2.10/23]
29...Qc8 30.Rf1 Prevents Qc1.
[30.Bc2!?]
30...Qc4! The position is equal. **31.Qd3 Qxd3 32.Bxd3=** Endgame. Bg6 is the strong threat. KRB-KRB **32...g5! 33.hxg5 hxg5 34.Rc1 Rf7 35.Rc8+ Kg7 36.Rc1 Bh5 37.Rc2 Bg6 38.Bxg6 Kxg6 39.Rf2** Against Rf3 **39...Rxf2 40.Kxf2** KP-KP **40...Kf5** And now ...Ke4 would win. **41.Kf3 g4+ 42.Ke3 a5 43.a4 b6** Black defended with fortune. Weighted Error Value: White=0.23 (precise) /Black=0.24 (precise) . Loss on time!?
0-1

275 **C11**
□ **Lee,Megan** **2253**
■ **Zatonskih,Anna** **2312**
ch-w 2024 Saint Louis USA (8.2)
[Kitty Kat]

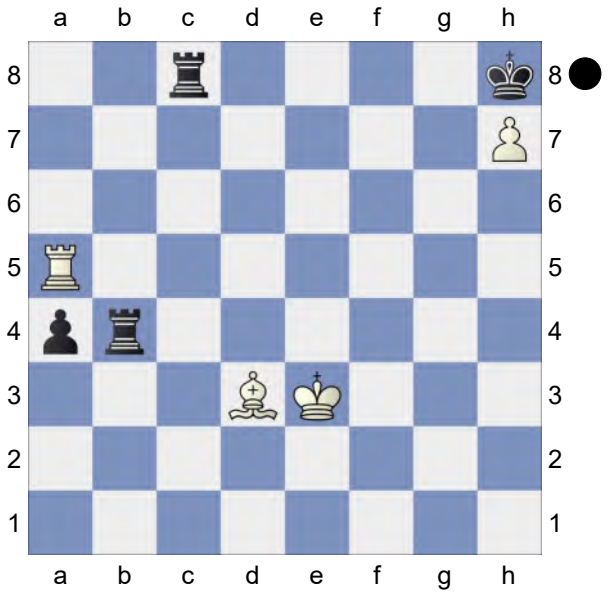
C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.Ne2 Qb6 9.Qc1 cxd4**
[9...Be7 10.c3 0-0 11.g3 f6 12.Bg2 cxd4 13.cxd4 Qa5+ 14.Nc3 Nb6 15.exf6 Bxf6 16.b3 Bd7 17.0-0 Rac8 18.Qd2 Be7 19.Ne2 Qxd2 20.Bxd2 Rc7 21.Rac1 Rfc8 22.f5 Ba3 23.Rce1 Bb4 24.Bxb4 1-0 Deslandes,P (2764)-Molina,R (2853) WCC 2004 (1)]
10.Nexd4 White is slightly better.
10...Nxd4 11.Nxd4 Nc5N
[11...Bc5 12.c3 Nb8 13.b4 Bf8 14.Bd3 Qc7 15.a4 Bd7 16.Qc2 Nc6 17.0-0 g6 18.Nxc6 Qxc6 19.Bd4 Be7 20.g4 h5 21.b5 Qc8 22.f5 gxf5 23.gxf5 exf5 24.Kh1 Be6 25.Rg1 Rf8 26.Rab1 1-0 Deakin,C (2413)-Emrich,E (2393) corr WS/SIM/B/46 ICCF 2024]
12.c3 Qc7 13.Be2 Be7 14.Qc2 Bd7 15.a4 0-0 16.Nf3 -0.37/21
[16.0-0= 0.25/19]
16...f6 0.27/20
[16...b5∓ -0.37/21]
17.exf6 Bxf6 18.h4 -0.62/22
[18.a5= 0.24/21]
18...Be8 19.h5 Repels Bg6 **19...Rc8 20.Rh3** -1.14/20
[Better is 20.Bxc5∓ -0.50/20 Qxc5 21.h6]
20...Ne4∓ 21.Bd3 e5 -0.46/27
[21...h6!∓ -1.14/20]
22.fxe5 Bxe5 23.0-0-0 -1.21/21
[23.Nxe5∓ -0.42/19 Qxe5 24.h6]
23...Nxc3 Double Attack **24.Bxh7+** -2.07/17
[24.bxc3∓ -1.08/19 Bxc3 25.h6 *(25.Bxh7+ Kh8∓)*]
24...Kh8-+ 25.h6 g6→ Black attacks with force.
[25...Nxd1 26.hxg7+ Bxg7 27.Kxd1 Qxc2+ 28.Bxc2+ Kg8 29.Bb3∓]
26.Bxg6? -7.05/18
[26.bxc3 -2.47/19 Bxa4 27.Nxe5 *(27.Qxa4? Qxc3+ 28.Kb1 Qb2#)* 27...Bxc2 28.Bxg6 Bxg6 *(28...Bxd1 29.Bd4=; 28...Qxe5 29.Bxc2 Rc4 30.Bd4∓)* 29.Nxg6+ Kh7 30.Nxf8+ Rxf8 31.Bd4]
26...Nxd1 27.Kxd1 Qxc2+ -2.64/19
[⌓27...Qd6 -4.59/20 28.Qxc8 Bxa4+ Discovered Attack *(28...Bxg6? 29.Qc5+-)* 29.Qc2 Bxc2+ 30.Bxc2 d4 *(30...Bxb2? 31.Nh4-+)*]
28.Bxc2 Bxb2 29.g4 -3.67/20
[29.Rg3 -2.61/19 was worth a try.]

29...Bd7 30.Nh2 -4.95/21
[30.Bf5 -3.51/18 keeps fighting. Bxf5 *(30...Bxa4+? 31.Ke2-+)* 31.gxf5]
30...Be5 31.Rh5 d4 32.Rxe5 dxe3 33.Re7

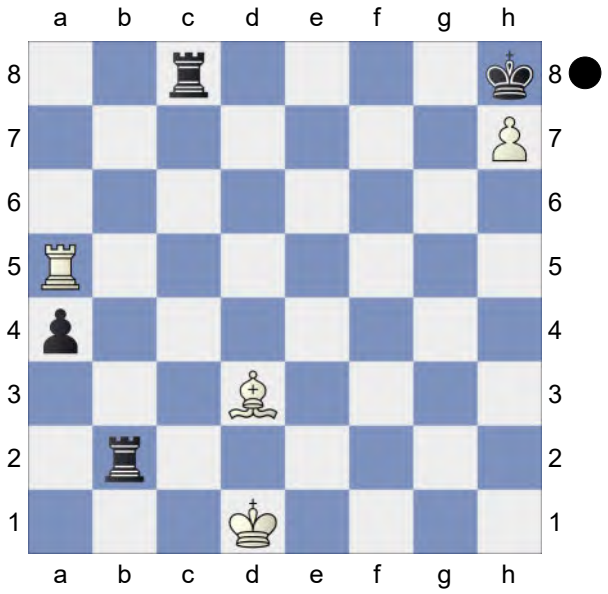


e2+ -3.37/18 **34.Rxe2 Rf4 35.Re7** -5.03/20
[⌓35.Kd2 -3.34/20]
35...Bxg4+? -0.21/19
[35...Bxa4 36.Rh7+ Kg8 37.Rg7+ Kf8 *(37...Kh8 38.Rh7+ Kg8 39.Rg7+ Kf8 40.Bxa4∓)* 38.Bxa4 Rd4+ *(38...Rxa4 39.Nf3∓)* 39.Ke2 Rxa4 40.Nf3-+]
[35...Rd4+-+ -5.03/20 36.Ke1 Rxc2]
36.Nxg4= Rxg4-+ Endgame. KRR-KRB
37.Bf5 Rd8+
[37...Rxa4?! 38.Bxc8 Rh4 39.Re8+ *(39.Rxb7 Rxh6 40.Ke2 Rh7±; 39.Re6 Kh7±)* 39...Kh7 40.Kc2± *(40.Bxb7 Rxh6 41.Bf3 Rb6±)*]
38.Kc2 Rg5 39.Be4 b5 40.Ra7? -2.64/26
[40.axb5= -0.22/21 and White has nothing to worry. Rc8+ *(40...Rxb5 41.Rh7+ Kg8 42.Rg7+ Kf8 43.Rc7=)* 41.Kb3 Rxb5+ 42.Ka3]
40...Rg4? -0.69/22
[Worse is 40...bxa4 41.Rxa6 Rd4 42.Bg6 Rg2+ 43.Kc1 Rg1+ 44.Kc2 Rg2+ 45.Kc1=]
[40...Re8!-+ -2.64/26 41.Bd3 bxa4]
41.Bf5∓ Rg5
[41...Rxa4 42.Bg6=]
42.Be4 Re8!
[42...bxa4 43.Rxa6 Rd4 44.Bg6 Rg2+ 45.Kc3∓]
43.Bd3 Rg2+ -0.73/20
[43...bxa4-+ -2.11/26 has better winning chances. Threatens to win with ...Rg2+. 44.Kb2 Rb8+ 45.Ka1 Rg3 46.Rh7+ Kg8]
44.Kb3∓ Rd8! 45.Bf5 bxa4+ 46.Kxa4 -1.80/23
[46.Ka3!∓ -0.58/19]
46...Rd4+? -0.03/35
[46...Rh2!-+ -1.80/23 47.Rh7+ Kg8]
47.Kb3= Rg3+ 48.Kc2 Rf4 (→ ... Rf2+) **49.Bd3 Rf2+ 50.Kc3 Rf8** ...Rc8+ would now be deadly. **51.Rd7 Rb8 52.Kc2! a5** Strongly threatening ... a4. **53.Rd4** -2.56/27
[White has to play 53.Rh7+!∓ -0.43/22 Kg8 54.Rd7]
53...Rg2+ 54.Kc3 Rg3 55.Kc2 Rg5 56.Kd2? -3.14/20
[56.Rc4!∓ -0.42/18]
56...Rh5-+ 57.h7 Rc5 58.Ke3 Rcc8 59.Ra4 Rb3 60.Rd4 Rb4 61.Rd5 a4 62.Ra5

(Diagram)



Re8+! 63.Kd2 Rd8 -5.56/19
[⌓63...Rg4 -3.52/22 64.Ra6 Rg2+ 65.Kc3 Rc8+ 66.Kd4 Rd8+ 67.Ke4 Rh2 *(67...Kxh7 68.Kf3+ Rxd3+ 69.Kxg2=)*]
64.Kc2 Rc8+ 65.Kd2 Rb2+? -0.60/20
[65...Rd8-+ -3.69/23 66.Kc2 Rg4]
66.Kd1∓

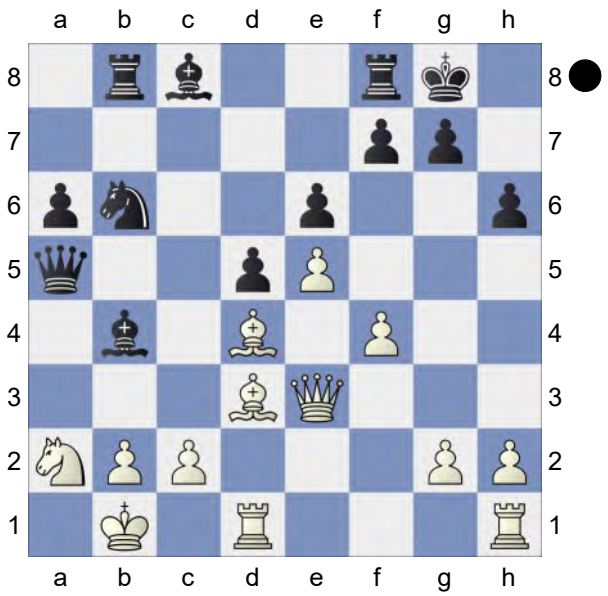


Ra2 -0.60/17
[66...Rb4!∓ -1.13/23 Hoping for ... Rd4. 67.Bf5 Rd8+ 68.Ke2 Re8+ 69.Kd2 Rh4]
67.Bf5? -5.88/19
[67.Rg5!∓ -0.60/17]
67...Rf8-+ aiming for ...a3. **68.Kc1 a3 69.Kb1 Rf2?** -0.01/28
[69...Rh2-+ -5.35/23 White must now prevent ...a2+! 70.Rd5 Rf2]
70.Bd3= Rb8+ 71.Ka1 Rf3 72.Be4 Re3 73.Bf5 Rc3 74.Be4 Rg3 75.Ra8 -0.60/34
[75.Ra4= -0.05/25]
75...Rxa8∓ 76.Bxa8 Kxh7 KR-KB
77.Ka2 Kg6 0.00/38
[Black should try 77...Kg7∓ -0.60/37 78.Bc6 Kf6]
78.Bd5= The position is equal. **78...Kf5**
[78...Kf6!? 79.Bb3□ Rh3=]
79.Bb3 Ke5 80.Kxa3 Kd4 And now ... Kc3 would win. **81.Kb4 Rc3 82.Ba2 Rc8 83.Bf7 Rb8+ 84.Ka5 Kc5 85.Ka4! Rb4+ 86.Ka3 Re4 87.Kb3 Re3+ 88.Kc2 Kd4 89.Bg6 Rc3+ 90.Kb2 Kc4 91.Bf7+ Kb4 92.Bg6 Rg3 93.Be4 Re3 94.Bg6 Re2+ 95.Kc1 Kc3 96.Kd1** Inhibits Re1+. **96...Ra2 97.Ke1 Rd2 98.Bf5 Rd5 99.Bg6 Rd6 100.Bf5 Rf6 101.Bh7 Rf7 102.Bg6 Rg7 103.Bh5 Rg2 104.Bf3 Rg7 105.Kf2 Kd2 106.Bd5 Rd7 107.Bb3 Rd8 108.Be6 Rd6 109.Bb3 Kc3 110.Bg8 Kd4 111.Kf3 Rd8 112.Bb3 Rf8+ 113.Ke2 Rf6 114.Bg8 Rh6 115.Kf3 Ke5 116.Bc4 Rh8 117.Bb5 Rf8+ 118.Ke3 Rb8 119.Bc4 Ra8 120.Kd3 Ra3+ 121.Kc2 Kd4 122.Bb3 Ra7 123.Be6 Rg7 124.Kb3 Rg3+ 125.Kc2 Rc3+ 126.Kd2 Rc6 127.Bd7 Rd6 128.Bg4 Ra6 129.Kc2 Ra7 130.Bf5 Re7** White happily takes the draw. Weighted Error Value: White=0.63/Black=0.63
½-½

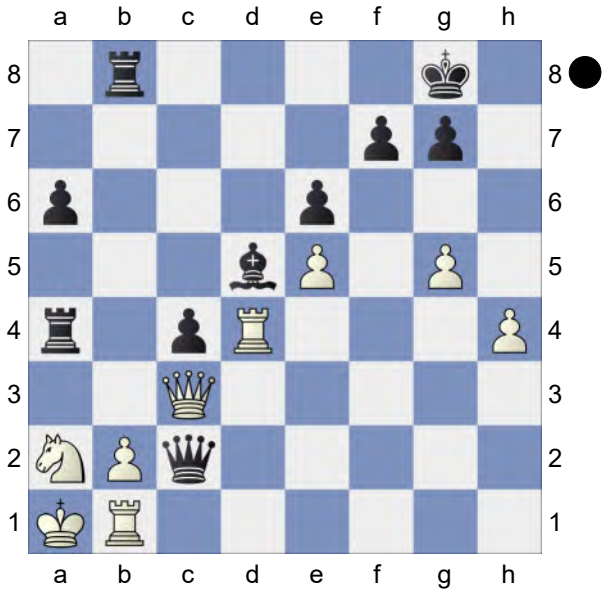
276 **C11**
□ **Karsten,Jan** **2252**
■ **Gatineau,Yovann** **2362**
Cape Town CKC (3) 10.06.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Be7 8.Qd2 0-0 9.dxc5 Qa5 10.a3** is currently scoring better than 10. 0-0-0. wohl besser als 10.0-0-0. **10...a6** Dodges Bb5 **11.0-0-0** -0.01/23
[11.Nd4± 0.49/22]
[11.Rb1 Bxc5 12.Bxc5 Qxc5 13.b4 Qa7 14.Bd3 f6 15.b5 axb5 16.Nxb5 Qb6 17.c4 Nc5 18.cxd5 exd5 19.Bc2 fxe5 20.Ng5 Qa5 21.Bxh7+ Kh8 22.Qxa5 Rxa5 23.fxe5 Nxe5 24.Rf1 Re8 25.Kd1 Bg4+ 0-1 Navara,D (2665)-Nevednichy,V (2451) EU-ch Blitz Skopje 2024 (6)]
11...b6= The position is equal.
[11...b5 simplifies 12.Nd4 Nxd4 13.Bxd4 Bxc5 14.Bxc5 Nxc5 15.Ne4 Qxd2+ 16.Nxd2 Bd7]
12.cxb6 Bxa3!
[12...Nxb6 13.Nb1 Bb4 14.axb4 Nxb4 15.Na3 Na4 16.Nd4 Na2+ 17.Kb1 N2c3+ 18.bxc3 Nxc3+ 19.Kb2 Qb4+ 20.Nb3 Na4+ 21.Ka2 Nc3+ 22.Qxc3 Qxc3 23.Bc5 Re8 24.Bd3 Rb8 25.Nb1 Rxb3 26.Nxc3 Rxc3 27.Bd4 1-0 Gokerkan,C (2473)-Kazmin,S (2170) Titled Tuesday intern op 07th Jan Early blitz 2025 (10)]
13.Kb1N -0.66/25
[Predecessor: 13.Nb1 -0.87/27 13.Nd4 0.01 Bb4 14.c3
A) 14...Bc5!∓ -0.96/25 15.Bxc5 Remove Defender *(15.b4 Nxb4)* 15...Nxc5;
B) 14...Nc5 -0.01/19 15.Qc2!= Bd7 16.Kd2? -1.98/23 *(16.Nd4= -0.01/21 Rfc8 17.b7 Nxb7 18.Nxc6 Rxc6 19.h4)* 16...Ne4+!-+ 17.Ke1 Nbd2! would now be deadly. Bc5 18.Bxc5 Qxc5 19.Bd3 0-1 Cernousek,L (2458)-Papp,G (2587) SVK-chT 1920 2019 (1.5) Qe3+ 20.Qe2 Qxf4 21.Bxe4 dxe4 22.Rxd7 exf3 23.Qxf3 Qxe5+ 24.Kf2 Qb5 25.Qe3 Rab8 26.Na3 Qxb2+ 0-1 The 3. Nc3 French - Model Gam-Lucas Cernousek The Aggressive French 2024]
[13.bxa3 Qxa3+ 14.Kb1 Rb8±]
[13.Nxd5 Bb4 14.c3 exd5 15.Qxd5 Bc5 *(15...Nxb6 16.Qxc6 Qa1+ 17.Kc2+-)* 16.Bxc5 Nxc5 *(16...Qxc5 17.b7±)* 17.Qxc6 Bf5-+]
[White should try 13.Nd4= 0.01/26 Nxd4 14.Bxd4]
13...Bb4 -0.09/23
[13...Nxb6!∓ -0.66/25 14.Na2 *(14.bxa3 Rb8±)* 14...Rb8 15.Qxa5 Nxa5]
14.Bd3? -1.71/22
[14.Nd4= -0.09/23 and White has nothing to worry. Bxc3 *(14...Qxb6 15.Nxe6* Discovered Attack *Qb7 16.Nxf8±)* 15.Qxc3 Qxc3 16.bxc3]
14...h6? -0.01/25
[14...Nxb6 15.Bxh7+ Kxh7 16.Ng5+ Kg8 17.Qd3±]
[14...Rb8!-+ -1.71/22 15.Qe1 g6 *(15...Nxb6 16.Bxh7+* Decoy *Kxh7 17.Qh4+ Kg8 18.Ng5=)*]
15.Nd4 -0.46/25
[15.f5= -0.01/25]
15...Nxd4!∓
[15...Qxb6?! 16.Nxe6 Qa5 17.Nxf8 Nxf8 18.Bb6 Qxb6 19.Nxd5=]
16.Bxd4 Nxb6 17.Qe3 Rb8 18.Na2

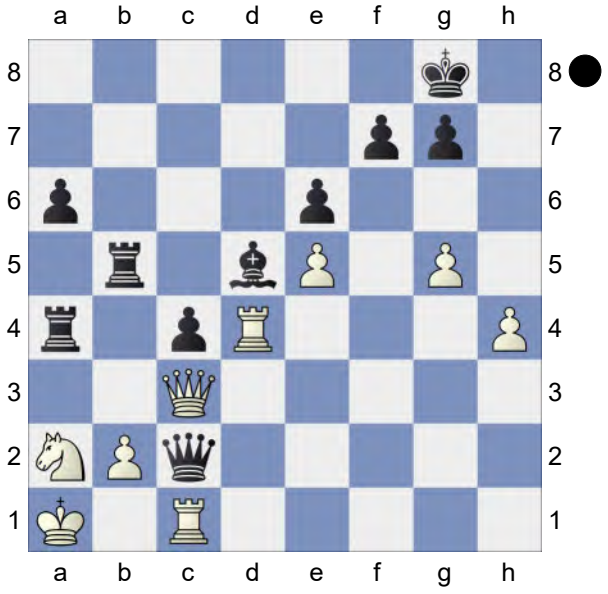
(Diagram)



Be7 -0.01/24
[18...Na4!∓ -0.84/25 19.Ka1 Bd7]
19.Ka1 -1.28/23
[19.g4= -0.01/24 remains equal.]
19...Bd7 -0.16/23
[Better is 19...Nc4∓ -1.28/23 20.Qf2 Qc7]
20.Rb1? -2.20/22
[20.Qg3= -0.16/23]
20...Nc4-+ 21.Bxc4 -3.43/22
[21.Qf2 -1.86/20 keeps fighting.]
21...dxc4 22.Bc3 Qa4 23.Rhd1 Bc6 24.Rd2 White is weak on the light squares **24...Rb5 25.g4 Rfb8 26.g5 hxg5** -1.60/22
[26...Bc5-+ -4.01/23 and Black stays clearly on top. 27.Qg3 hxg5 28.Qxg5 Be4]
27.fxg5∓ Bd5→ -1.35/24 Black goes for the king. A strong pair of Bishops.
[27...Rd5-+ -1.93/26 And now ...Rxd2 would win. 28.Rbd1 Rxd2 29.Rxd2 Qb5]
28.h4? -6.97/24
[28.Qf4∓ -1.35/24]
28...Bb4-+ 29.Bxb4 Rxb4 30.Rd4 Qxc2 31.Qa3 Ra4 -11.51/27
[⌓31...Rb3 -32.89/29 32.Qd6 Kh7 *(32...Rxb2? 33.Qxb8+ Rxb8 34.Rxb8+ Kh7 35.Rb2-+)* 33.Qxb8 Rxb8]
32.Qc3



Rb5! 33.Rc1
[33.g6 Rba5]



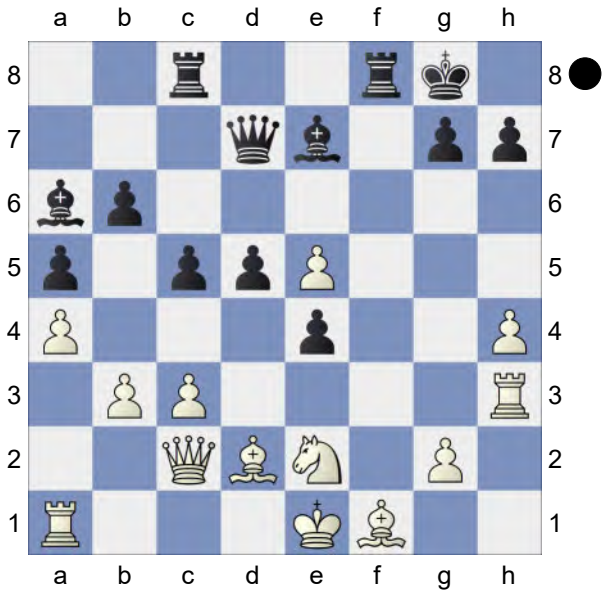
Weighted Error Value: White=1.23/Black=0.62 **33...Rba5!** -7.66/5
0-1

277 **C11**
□ **Jamrich,Gyorgy** **2246**
■ **Schneider Zinner,Harald** **2329**
FSIMB Budapest HUN (2) 05.08.2001
[Neil McDonald,MH]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 Qb6 8.Nf3 Be7** ChessPublishing: 'If'
[If 8...f6 9.a3 should lead to the game by a long transposition, whilst ChessPublishing: 'should lead to the game by a long transposition, whilst']
[8...a5 9.a3 a4 10.h4 Ra7!? was the obscure course of Arakhamia-Volkov. ChessPublishing: 'was the obscure course of Arakhamia-Volkov. ']
9.a3 ChessPublishing: 'This has become more popular than'
[This has become more popular than 9.g3 as in Lalic-Speelman. ChessPublishing: 'as in Lalic-Speelman.']
9...a5! This seems to be Black's best move order. If instead ChessPublishing: 'This seems to be Black's best move order. If instead'
[9...0-0 10.b4! ChessPublishing: 'I consider this a better option than' *(* I consider this a better option than *10.h4* -0.16/20 10.b4 0.36 which should transpose to the game.*)* 10...cxd4 11.Nexd4 Nxd4 12.cxd4 turned out well for White in Bologan-Gurevich. This is given in the note to White's 10th move in the Anand-Shirov Frankfurt game. ChessPublishing: 'turned out well for White in Bologan-Gurevich. This is given in the note to White's 10th move in the Anand-Shirov Frankfurt game.']
10.b3 ChessPublishing: 'Transposing is'
[Transposing is 10.h4 0-0 11.Rh3 f6 12.b3 Qc7]
10...0-0 11.h4 f6 Black is slightly better.
12.Rh3 Qc7
[12...Qd8 13.Ng3 h6 14.Be3 f5 15.Bd3 cxd4 16.cxd4 Nb6 17.Nh5 Qe8 18.Nh2 g6 19.Nf6+ Bxf6 20.exf6 Nd7 21.h5 Nxf6 22.hxg6 Qxg6 23.g4 Nxg4 24.Nxg4 Qxg4 25.Qxg4+ fxg4 26.Rxh6 Ne7 27.Kd2 ½-½ 6.♘b3 ♗b4 7.♗g5 (2620)-10.dc5 ♗c5 11. ♗d2 (2675) Plzen KB op-A U18 1997 (3.1)]
13.Qc2N ChessPublishing: 'In the Anand-Shirov game in Tehran White played'
[In the Anand-Shirov game in Tehran White played 13.Neg1!? here, after which ChessPublishing: 'here, after which' b6!? 0.06/19 followed by Ba6 was recommended. The present game seems to indicate that the sensible development of the bishop is the best plan irrespective of White's choice of moves. ChessPublishing: 'followed by Ba6 was recommended. The present game seems to indicate that the sensible development of the bishop is the best plan irrespective of White's choice of moves.' *(13...h6∓ -0.44/22; 13...a4 14.b4 fxe5 15.fxe5 Ndxe5* Vodicka,M-13...cxd4 14.cxd4 Qd6 #2 USSR (ch) 5/122 1967*)* 14.Ra2 Ba6 15.Bxa6 Rxa6 16.Re2 Raa8 17.h5 Rac8 18.Bb2 b5 19.g4 c4 20.bxc4 bxc4 21.Bc1 fxe5 22.fxe5 Rb8 23.Qc2 Qb6 24.Ng5 Bxg5 25.Bxg5 Ndxe5 26.Bc1 Nd3+ 27.Rxd3 cxd3 28.Qxd3 e5 4 Chapter-Games Chapter 13 Game]
13...b6! -0.14/19
[13...b5∓ -0.64/19]

14.Bd2?! -0.50/21
[14.Ng3= -0.14/19 feels stronger.]
14...Ba6 15.a4 -0.98/20
[White should play 15.Ng3∓ -0.36/19]
15...Rac8∓ Black is more active. **16.f5?** -2.86/24 After a series of feeble defensive moves White suddenly lashes out. Naturally the logic of the position ensures that his position soon collapses. ChessPublishing: 'After a series of feeble defensive moves White suddenly lashes out. Naturally the logic of the position ensures that his position soon collapses.'
[16.Rc1∓ -1.12/22]
16...fxe5-+ ...cxd4 is the strong threat. **17.fxe6 e4!** A well calculated combination. **18.exd7 Qxd7** Strongly threatening ...cxd4. **19.Ne5** -5.05/20 Wherever the knight moves the idea of Qxh4! and Bxh4+ will prove decisive as in the game. ChessPublishing: 'Wherever the knight moves the idea of Qxh4! and Bxh4+ will prove decisive as in the game.'
[19.Nf4 -3.60/16 might work better. Bxf1 20.Kxf1 cxd4 *(20...exf3? 21.dxc5 Qg4 22.gxf3-+)* 21.Qb2 dxc3 *(21...exf3? 22.c4-+)* 22.Qxc3]
19...Nxe5 Black is clearly winning. **20.dxe5**

(Diagram)



Qxh3 Remove Defender **21.gxh3** And now Bg5 would win.
[21.0-0-0 Qh2]
21...Bxh4+ 22.Kd1 Rxf1+ 23.Be1 Rxe1+ A pretty finish. White did not feel at home in the position after the opening. Weighted Error Value: White=1.00/ Black=0.10 (very precise)
0-1

278 **C11**
□ **Crouan,Stephane** **2229**
■ **Renet,Olivier** **2490**
FRA-chT Top 16 GpB (5.5) 01.04.2005
[Kitty Kat]

(100min+30sec)/40+(50min+30sec)/20+(10min+
C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 Knaak,Rainer: 'Neven,K; Knaak,R;Bareev,E(NIC): 'Knaak,R: 'Inf 51/(271)'" **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 f6**
[7...b5 8.Nf3 b4 9.f5 bxc3 10.fxe6 fxe6 11.bxc3 cxd4 12.cxd4 Bb4+ 13.Bd2 0-0 14.Bxb4 Nxb4 15.Qd2 Qa5 16.Kf2 Nb6 17.Rb1 Nc6

18.Qxa5 Nxa5 19.Nc3 Sax,G (2605)-Kortschnoj,V (2615) 51/(271) Wijk aan Zee 1991]

8.Nf3 fxe5N 0.84/22

[8...Be7= 0.05/20 9.g3 0-0 10.Bh3 Kh8 11.0-0 fxe5 12.dxe5 Nb6 13.b3 d4 14.cxd4 cxd4 15.Bb2 Bc5 16.Nexd4 Qd5 17.Kh1 Bd7 18.Bg2 Rad8 19.Ng5 Nxd4 20.Bxd5 Nxd5 21.Bxd4 Bc6 22.Bxc5 Nxf4+ 23.Qf3 Bxf3+ 1-0 9.♘d2 a5/ 14.♕c2 ♘gf6 1 (2641)-Moennich,M (2270) (izt) 49/325 1990 (11)]

[8...Qb6 9.h4 Be7 10.Rh3 0-0 11.a3 a5 12.Ng3 cxd4 13.cxd4 fxe5 14.fxe5 Ndxe5 15.dxe5 Nxe5 16.Be2 Bd6 17.Nf1 Ng4 18.Qd4 Bc5 19.Qxg4 e5 20.Qg5 Bf2+ 21.Kd2 Bxh3 22.gxh3 e4 23.Ne1 1-0 Tonoian,A (2467)-63) King's Gambit: Introducti (2532) 8/447 Raach 1969]

9.fxe5±

[9.dxe5 Be7=]

9...Be7 1.58/17

[9...cxd4± 0.66/19 10.cxd4 Bb4+ 11.Bd2 Qb6]

10.Nf4 White is clearly better. **10...Nf8 11.Bd3 Bd7 12.Nh5** 1.22/17

[12.0-0+- 1.90/17]

12...Rg8 13.0-0 dxc5 would now be deadly. **13...cxd4 14.cxd4 Qb6 15.Be3 0-0-0 16.Rf2** 0.63/23

[16.b4± 1.02/20]

16...Kb8 17.Bf1 0.00/20

[17.Ne1± 0.65/19]

17...Ka8 0.64/18

[17...Be8= 0.00/20 18.Ng3 h6]

18.a3 -0.11/20

[18.Qd2± 0.64/18]

18...Ng6 0.72/21

[18...Be8= -0.11/20 remains equal. 19.Ng3 h5]

19.Qd2 Na5! And now ...Nb3 would win.

20.Qd3 -0.45/19

[White should try 20.Re1± 0.40/22]

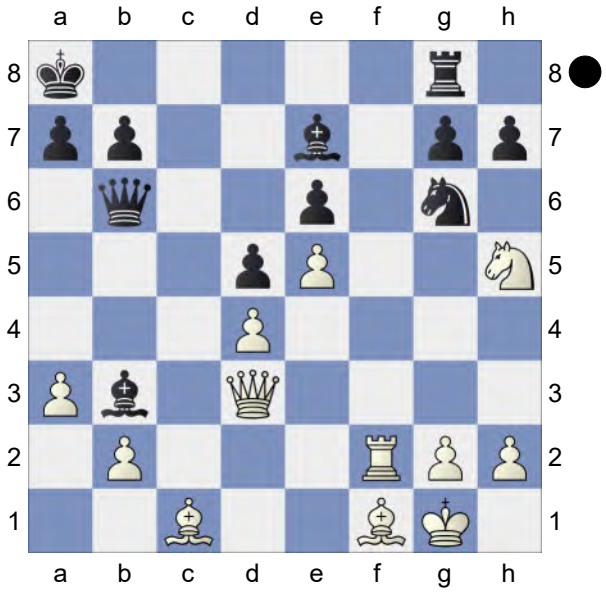
20...Nb3 0.53/20

[20...Nc4∓ -0.45/19]

21.Rd1 Rc8 22.Nd2 Ba4 23.Nxb3 Bxb3 24.Rc1 -1.57/23

[24.Re1!± 0.42/23 keeps the upper hand.]

24...Rxc1∓ 25.Bxc1



Rc8? 0.65/20

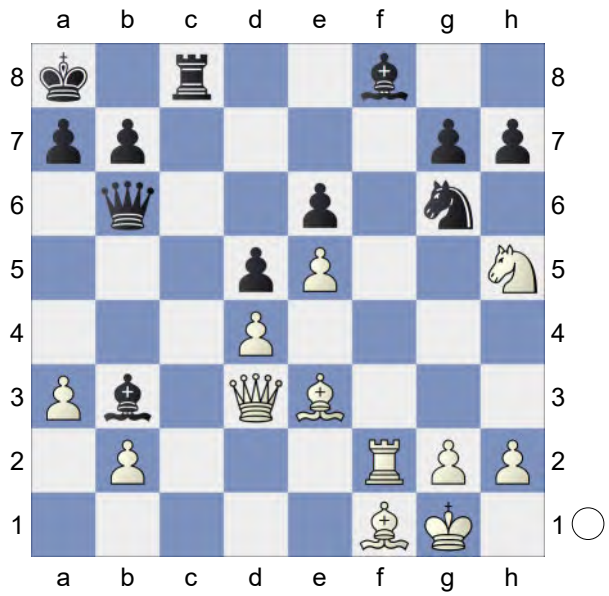
[25...Nxe5!∓ -1.60/20 26.Qc3 *(26.dxe5?* perishes. *Bc5-+* Pin*; 26.Qxh7?* is the wrong capture. *Rc8-+)* 26...Nc6]

26.Be3± Qb5! is the strong threat.

26...Bf8? 2.25/20

[Black should play 26...Bc4± 0.68/18 27.Qd2 Bxf1 28.Rxf1 Bf8]

(Diagram)

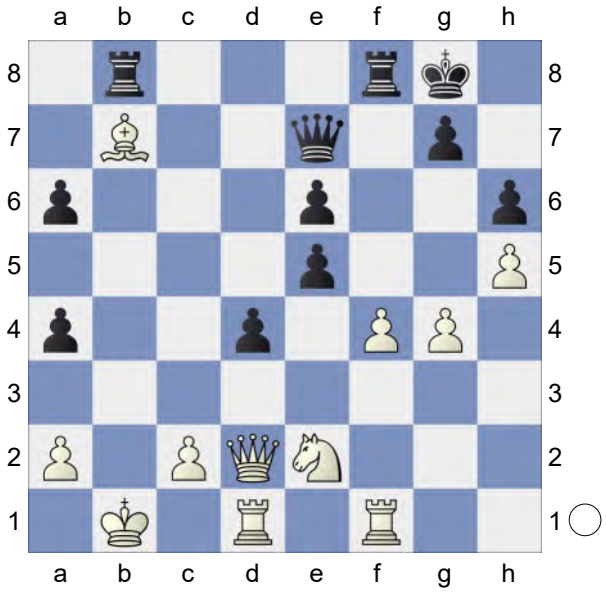


Black cannot hold the game after this. **27.Qb5!→** White attacks with force. **27...Qxb5** 2.97/18
[⌓27...Bd1 2.09/24]
28.Bxb5 Rc7 3.93/20
[28...Bd1 2.68/20 keeps fighting.]
29.Bd3 Rc8 30.Bxg6
[But not 30.Rf7 Bc2+-]
30...hxg6 31.Nf4! Weighted Error Value: White=0.35/Black=0.45. Loss on time!?
0-1

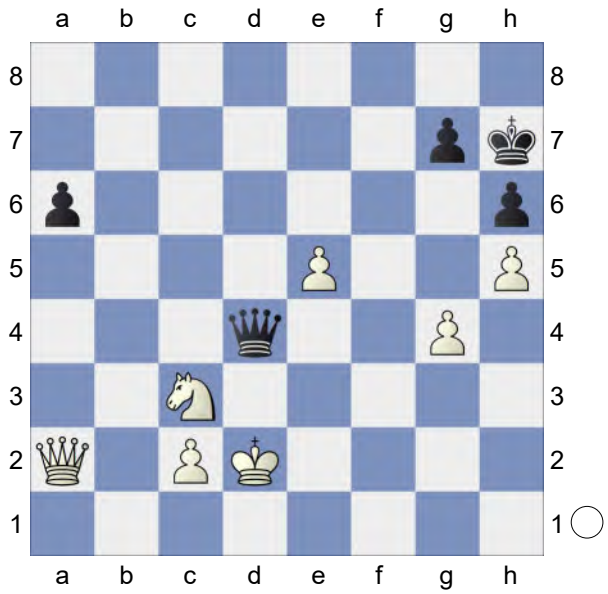
279 **C11**
□ **Gronemann,Joern** **2216**
■ **Haidenbauer,Dietmar** **2207**
corr ESP/MG6 28 (ESP) 29.12.2022
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 Aaron Summerscale: 'Torre Attack: If you are looking for an opening plan against the Torre attack without having to memorise a whole string of moves, then take a look at the following game. Black deploys his forces efficiently and is ready to meet any White activity. Now let Grandmaster Epishin conduct class as he shows you exactly what to do next.' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Nxd4 9.Bxd4 Bc5**
[9...a6 10.Qg4 h5 11.Qf3 Be7 12.Qe3 Qc7 13.f5 Bc5 14.fxe6 fxe6 15.Nxd5 Qa5+ 16.Nc3 Bxd4 17.Qxd4 Qxe5+ 18.Qxe5 Nxe5 19.0-0-0 0-0 20.h3 Bd7 21.Re1 Rf5 22.Ne4 Bc6 23.Nd6 Rg5 24.h4 0-1 Bellin,R (2360)-Epishin,V (2626) Masters Catalan Bay ENG 2003 (1)]
10.Bxc5
[10.Be2 0-0 11.0-0 Qb6 12.Nb5 Bxd4+ 13.Qxd4 Qxd4+ 14.Nxd4 a6 15.Bd3 Nc5 16.Be2 Bd7 17.b4 Ne4 18.Rf3 Rac8 19.Bd3 Nc3 20.Rh3 h6 21.g4 Rc7 22.g5 Ne4 23.gxh6 g6 24.Nf3 Kh7 1-0 Siskou,E (1884)-February,J (2038) Swiss Queens Wed #37 blitz 2024 (11)]
10...Nxc5 11.Qd4N
[11.Qg4 0-0 12.0-0-0 f5 13.Qf3 Bd7 14.Nxd5 Qa5 15.Qc3 Qxc3 16.Nxc3 Bc6 17.Rg1 Rac8 18.Bc4 Kf7 19.Rd6 Rfe8 20.g3 a6 21.a3 b5 22.Ba2 a5 23.Ne2 b4 24.Nd4 Be4 25.Bc4 bxa3 1-0 Gledny,W (2124)-7. ♘b3 e6 8. ♘f3 ♗d6_6083 (2091) Eurotel Trophy rapid 2002 (4)]
11...b6 12.h4 White is better. **12...0-0 13.0-0-0 Bb7 14.g3** 0.54/20
[14.h5± 0.90/20]
14...Qe7± 15.Bg2 a6 1.10/20
[15...Rac8± 0.56/19]
16.h5 0.60/19
[16.Kb1± 1.10/20]
16...Rac8 17.Kb1 h6 1.19/21
[17...b5± 0.68/19]
18.g4± White is more active. **18...b5 19.Ne2** 0.63/20

[19.g5± 1.18/20]
19...Na4 1.29/22
[19...Qc7!± 0.63/20]
20.Qd2 f6 21.b3! fxe5 22.bxa4 bxa4 1.51/18
[Black should try 22...Rc4 0.84/22]
23.Rhf1!
[23.fxe5 Rf2 24.Bh3 d4 25.Qxd4 Rxe2-+]
23...d4 24.Bxb7 Rb8

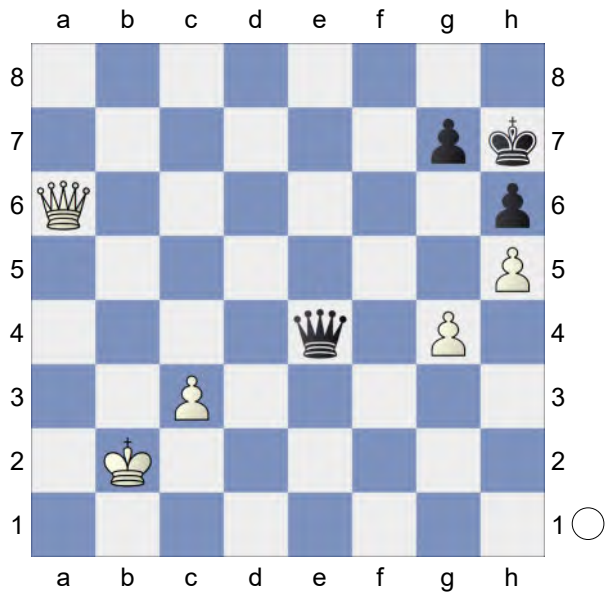


25.Ka1! Qxb7 26.Rb1 Repels Qb2+
[26.fxe5? Qb2#]
26...Qd5 2.01/25
[26...Qg2± 1.33/23 keeps fighting.]
27.Rxb8+- Rxb8 28.Rb1 Prevents Qb5. **28...Rxb1+ 29.Kxb1 a3 30.fxe5 Qb5+** 3.03/5
[⌓30...Qb7+ 1.78/30 31.Kc1 Qb2+ 32.Kd1 Qxa2]
31.Kc1 Qb2+ 32.Kd1 Qxa2 33.Qa5!
[33.Qxd4 Qb1+ 34.Kd2 a2=]
[33.Nxd4 Qa1+ *(33...Qb1+ 34.Ke2=)* 34.Ke2 a2=]
33...d3 34.Qd8+
[34.cxd3 Qb3+ 35.Ke1 a2 36.Qxa6 Kh7= *(36...Qb1+ 37.Kf2=)*]
34...Kf7 35.Qxd3
[35.cxd3 Qb3+ 36.Kd2 Qb2+ 37.Kd1 Qb3+ *(37...Qxe5 38.Qd7+ Kf6 39.Qa4±)* 38.Kc1 a2 *(38...Qb2+ 39.Kd1=)* 39.Qd7+ Kg8 40.Qe8+ Kh7 41.Qg6+ Kh8 42.Qe8+ Kh7 43.Qg6+ Kh8 44.Qe8+ Kh7=]
35...Qb1+ 36.Kd2
[36.Nc1 a2=]
36...a2 37.Qd7+!
[37.Qxa6? a1Q *(37...a1B? 38.c3+-)* 38.Qxa1 Qxa1-+]
37...Kg8 38.Qxe6+ Kh7 White must now prevent ...Qb4+. **39.Nc3**
[Stronger than 39.Qxa6 a1R *(39...a1B? loses. 40.c3+-; 39...a1Q 40.Qg6+ Kg8 41.Qe8+ Kh7 42.Qg6+ Kh8 43.Qe8+ Kh7 44.Qg6+=)* 40.Qd3+ Kh8=]
39...Qb4 40.Qxa2 Qd4+



41.Kc1! Qxc3 42.Qxa6 Endgame KQ-KQ. White is two pawns up. **42...Qe1+ 43.Kb2 Qxe5+ 44.c3 Qe4**

(Diagram)

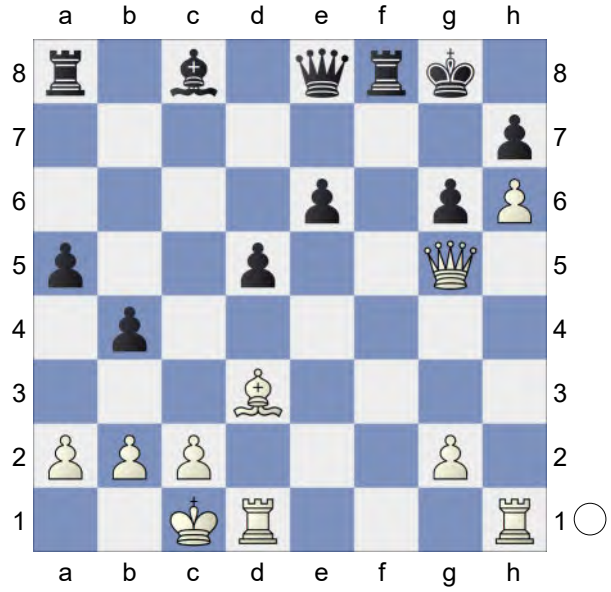


45.Qc8! Qe2+ 46.Ka3 Qd2 47.Qf5+ Kh8 48.Kb3 Qd1+ 49.Kb4 Qd2 50.Qe6 Qb2+ 51.Qb3 Qd2 52.Qc4 Qd7 53.Qc5 Strongly threatening Qf8+. **53...Qxg4+ 54.c4 Qe6** Weighted Error Value: White=0.04 (flawless) /Black=0.14 (very precise) **55.Kb5**
1-0

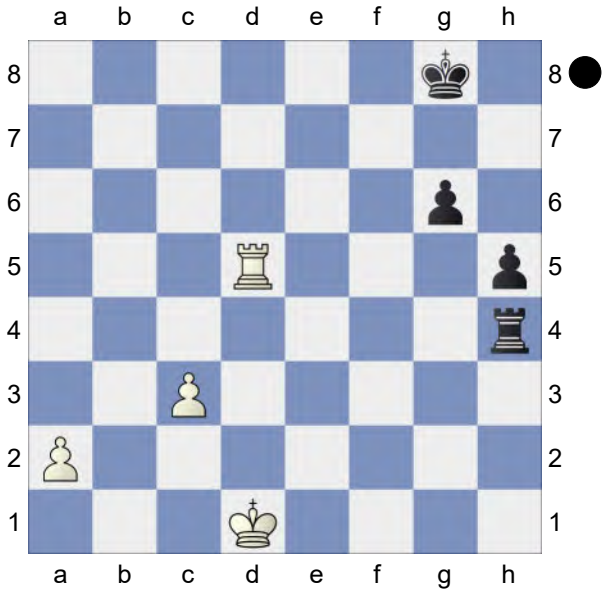
280 **C11**
□ **MacDonald Ross,Michael** **2186**
■ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2026**
Hampstead IM (5) 01.02.2023
[John Watson,TA]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Bc5 9.Qd2 0-0 10.0-0-0 Nxd4 11.Bxd4 a6 12.h4 b5 13.h5** 0.03/19
[13.Bxc5± 0.62/20 Nxc5 14.g4]
13...b4= 14.Ne2 -0.09/18
[14.Na4± 0.48/21 Bxd4 15.Qxd4 Qa5 16.b3 Bb7 17.f5 Bc6 18.Rh3 Bxa4 19.Rg3 Kh8 20.bxa4 Qc7 21.Re1 Rac8 22.Bd3 Nc5 23.Kd1 Nxa4 24.f6 French-10.000 a6 11.h4 Survey 2020]
14...Qc7N
[14...a5 15.Bxc5 *(15.Qe3 Qc7 16.Kb1 Ba6 17.Bxc5 Nxc5 18.Ng3 Rfc8 19.Rc1 a4 20.Bxa6 Rxa6 21.Rhd1 a3 22.b3 Rc6 23.Qd4 Na6 24.Rd2 Qe7 25.Qd3 Qh4 26.Qf3 Rc3 27.Rd3 h6 28.f5 Qg5 29.Qf1 Rxd3* 0-1 Topalov,V (2700)-Morozevich,A (2723) 75/269 Sarajevo 1999 *)* 15...Nxc5 16.Qe3 Qb6 17.f5 a4 18.Kb1 b3 19.cxb3 axb3 20.a3 exf5 21.Rxd5 Ra5 22.Nf4 h6 23.Bd3 Be6 24.Rd6 Qb7 25.Rc1 Rc8 26.Qd4 Nxd3 27.Rxc8+ Bxc8 28.Ng6 Kh7 29.Nf8+ 1-0 Preuschat (2590)-Margarido,J (2610) Schleswig Holstein-ch M 49th 1994]
15.Bxc5
[15.h6 -0.06/17 15.Bxc5 0.38 g6 16.Kb1 -0.33/19 *(16.Bxc5!=* 0.13/19 *Nxc5 17.Qxb4)* 16...a5∓ 17.Bxc5 Qxc5 0.48/22 *(17...Nxc5∓* -0.56/21 *18.Nd4 f6)* 18.Nd4± Ba6 0.95/20 Wards off Bb5 *(18...Qb6±* 0.35/21 *)* 19.Rc1 0.10/19 *(19.f5!±* 0.95/20 *)* 19...Qb6= 20.c4 -0.28/20 *(20.Bxa6* 0.21/20 feels stronger. *Qxa6 21.Rhd1)* 20...bxc3? 1.39/24 *(20...Bb7=* -0.28/20 *)* 21.Rxc3]
15...Qxc5 1.43/21
[15...Nxc5= -0.01/21 16.Qxb4 Ne4]
16.Nd4± a5 1.33/21
[16...Qb6 0.71/21]
17.f5 -0.01/20
[17.Bb5± 1.33/21]
17...Nxe5=
[17...exf5 18.Nxf5 d4 19.Qxd4 Qxd4 20.Rxd4 Nxe5 21.Ne7+ Kh8]
18.h6 g6 19.fxe6 fxe6
[19...Bxe6 20.Qf4 Nd7 *(20...Nc6 21.Qf6)* 21.Bb5+-]

20.Qg5 Against Ng4 **20...Nc6** 0.44/21
[20...Qd6= 0.01/25]
21.Nxc6± **Qxc6** **22.Bd3** Intending Bxg6! and mate. **22...Qe8** 0.86/21
[22...Ra7!= 0.01/24 keeps the balance.]



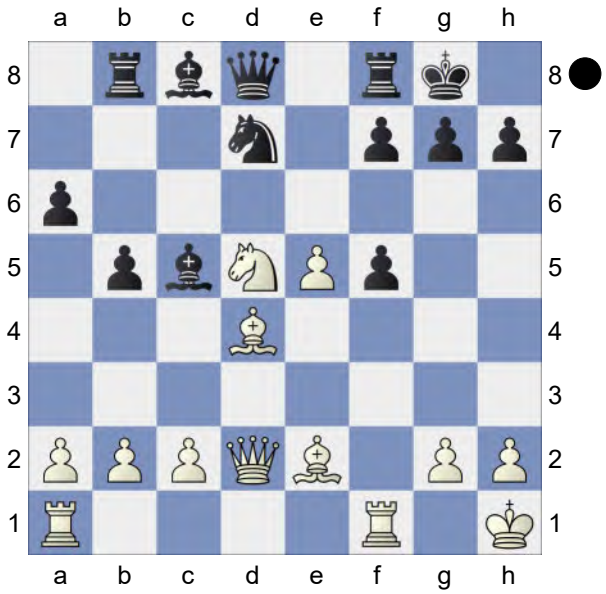
23.Qe5!± **Ra7** Prevents Qg7+. **24.Rh3** -0.01/24 White has more active pieces.
[24.g4± 0.67/22]
24...Rff7⇄ Black is not keeping still
25.Rdh1 **Ba6** 0.37/23
[25...Qd8= -0.18/22]
26.Bxa6!± **Rxa6** **27.Rf3** **Raa7** **28.Re1** -0.13/25
[28.Rhf1± 0.44/24]
28...Rxf3= **29.gxf3** Endgame KQR-KQR. Black is a pawn up. **29...Re7**
[29...Rf7 simplifies 30.Qxe6 Qxe6 31.Rxe6 Rxf3 32.Rd6 Rh3]
30.f4 **Qf7** **31.Qd6** **Re8** **32.Re3** **Rf8** **33.Rxe6**
[33.b3 with more complications. Qf6 34.Kb1 Qxf4 35.Qxe6+ Kh8 36.Qe5+]
33...Qxf4+ **34.Qxf4** **Rxf4** KR-KR. Black is a pawn up. **35.Ra6** **Rh4** **36.Rxa5** **Rxh6** **37.Rxd5** **Rh4** **38.c3** **bxc3** **39.bxc3** **h5** **40.Kd1** -1.89/21
[40.Kd2!∓ -0.55/18]



40...Ra4? -0.35/23
[40...Kf7!-+ -1.89/21 41.Kc2 Rf4]
41.Rd2∓ **h4** **42.Ke1** -0.96/26
[White should play 42.Ke2∓ -0.40/24]
42...g5∓ **43.Rd5?** -5.95/23
[43.Kf2∓ -0.56/23]
43...Rg4-+
[43...Rxa2 44.Rxg5+ Kf7 45.Kf1=]
44.Rd3 **Kf7** **45.Kf2** **Ra4** **46.Rd2** **Kg6** **47.Rc2** **Rc4** Threatens to win with ... Kh5. **48.a4** **Rxa4** -0.67/24
[48...g4-+ -5.80/23 49.a5 Ra4]
49.c4∓ **Ra6** 0.01/30
[Better is 49...Kf7∓ -0.52/27]
50.c5= The position is equal. **50...Rc6**
51.Rc4 **Kf5** **52.Kf3** **Kf6**
[52...Ke6!? 53.Kg4□ Kd5=]
53.Kg4 **Kg6** **54.Rc3** **Kf6** **55.Rc4** **Ra6** White happily takes the draw. Weighted Error Value: White=0.36/ Black=0.37 **56.Rb4**
[56.c6!? Black must now prevent c7. Ra8! 57.c7=]
[56.c6!? Ra8□ 57.c7=]
½-½

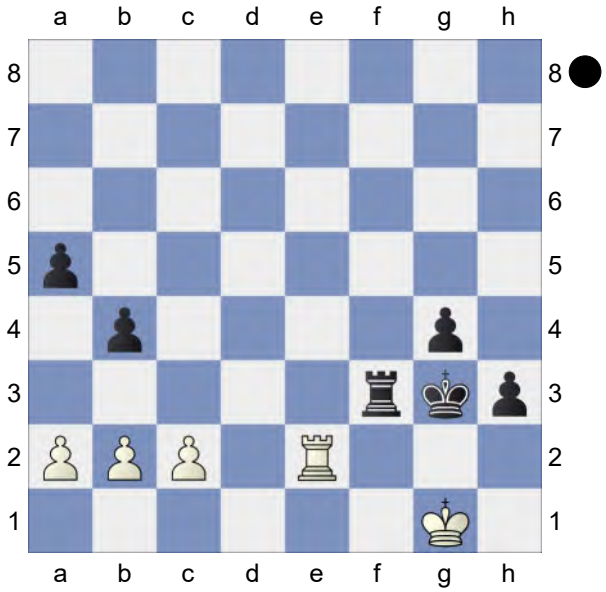
281 **C11**
□ **Sakenova,Salima** **2172**
■ **Bluebaum,Matthias** **2643**
Titled Tuesday intern op 11th Mar Early ..
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Rb8 8.Be2 cxd4!** outshines the older 8...Qa5. erfolgreicher als das alte 8...Da5. **9.Nxd4 Bc5** White has an edge. **10.0-0 0-0 11.Qd2 a6 12.Kh1** -0.01/19
[12.Nd1± 0.35/21]
12...Nxd4= 13.Bxd4 b5 14.f5N -0.50/21
[14.Bxc5 Nxc5 15.Qd4 Qb6 16.a3 -0.43/18 *(16.b4= 0.01/22 Na4 17.Qd2)*
A) 16...Na4!∓ -0.43/18 17.Qxb6 *(17.Qb4 Bd7)* 17...Rxb6;
B) 16...Ne4 0.57/22 17.Qxb6± Rxb6 18.Nxe4 dxe4 19.Rfd1 Bb7 20.Kg1 ½-½ Perez Ponsa,F (2528)-Bluebaum,M (2643) Titled Tuesday intern op 14th Jan Early blitz 2025 (5) a5 21.Kf2 e3+ 22.Kxe3 Bxg2 23.b4 axb4 24.axb4 Bd5 25.Ra5 Rfb8 26.Rda1 h6 27.R1a3 g5 28.Rc3 Bc4 29.Bf3 Rd8 30.Be4 Rd1 31.Ra8+ Kg7 32.Bd3 Rc6 33.Bxc4 gxf4+ 34.Ke4 Rxc4+ 35.Rxc4 ½-½ Perez Ponsa,F (2528)-Bluebaum,M (2643) Titled Tuesday intern op 14th Jan Early blitz 2025 (5)]
[14.Bxc5= 0.16/20 Nxc5 15.b4]
14...exf5∓ 15.Nxd5 -0.83/21
[15.Rxf5= -0.28/19 remains equal. b4 16.Nd1 *(16.Nxd5? Bxd4 17.Qxd4 Nb6-+)*]

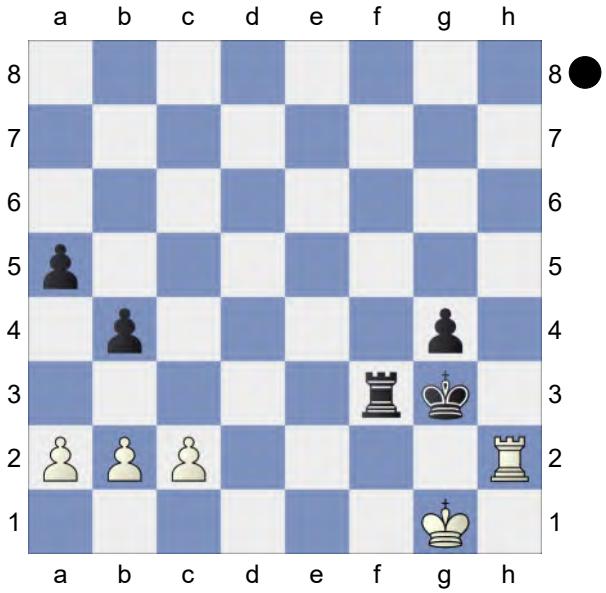


15...Bxd4!∓ 16.Qxd4 Nb6 17.Bf3 Be6 18.Rad1 Nxd5 19.Bxd5 Qxd5 -0.39/18
[19...Bxd5∓ -0.76/19 20.Qxd5 Qc7]
20.Qxd5∓ Bxd5 21.Rxd5∓ Endgame KRR-KRR **21...g6 22.Rfd1 Rfe8 23.Kg1 b4 24.Kf2 Rbc8 25.R1d2 Kg7 26.Kf3** -0.63/19
[26.R5d4= -0.25/20]
26...Rc4 -0.12/22
[Black should try 26...g5∓ -0.63/19]
27.R5d4= Rec8 28.Rxc4 Rxc4 KR-KR **29.g3** -0.81/22
[29.b3∓ -0.35/21 might be stronger. Rc5 30.Kf4]
29...g5∓ 30.h3? -2.13/21
[30.Ke3∓ -0.56/20]
30...Rc5? -0.47/21
[30...h5-+ -2.13/21 White must now prevent ...h4. 31.Re2 h4 32.gxh4 Rxh4]
31.Rd4 -1.79/22
[Better is 31.Re2∓ -0.47/21]
31...a5-+
[31...Rxc2 32.Rxb4 Rd2 33.Rb6=]
32.g4? -4.04/23
[32.Rd2∓ -1.51/20]
32...Rxe5
[Inferior is 32...Rxc2 33.gxf5 h5

(33...Rxb2 34.Rd7=) 34.Rd5∓]
33.gxf5? -5.79/24
[33.c3 -3.61/21 bxc3 34.bxc3]
33...Rxf5+ 34.Kg4 Kg6 35.Rd6+ f6 36.Rd4 h5+ 37.Kg3 Rc5 38.Rd2 h4+ 39.Kg2 f5 40.Rd6+ Kh5 41.Rd2 g4 42.hxg4+ fxg4 43.Re2 Kg5 44.Kf2 Rf5+ 45.Kg2 h3+ 46.Kh2 Kh4 47.Kg1 Repels Rf1+ **47...Rf4** -14.75/23
[⌓47...Rd5 -31.65/22 48.Re7 Rd2]
48.Re8 Kg3 (→ ...h2+) **49.Re3+ Rf3 50.Re2**



h2+! -11.29/5 **51.Rxh2**



Black is clearly winning. **51...Rf1+!!** Deflection **52.Kxf1 Kxh2 53.Ke2** Weighted Error Value: White=1.32/ Black=0.52 **53...g3**
0-1

282 **C11**
□ **Savic,Mihailo S** **2167**
■ **Antic,Dejan** **2347**
Belgrade-chT Premier (6.3) 14.10.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.Qd2 b5 9.a3 Bb7** 0.58/16 9...Qa5 gains popularity. 9...Da5 wird beliebter.
[9...Qb6= 0.21/16]
10.Be2 0.00/19
[10.Bd3± 0.58/16]
10...Be7 0.43/19
[10...Rc8= 0.00/19]
[10...Qb6 11.dxc5 Bxc5 12.Bxc5 Nxc5 13.Qe3 d4 14.Nxd4 Nxd4 15.Qxd4 Rd8 16.Qf2 b4 17.axb4 Qxb4 18.0-0 0-0 19.Na2 Qd4 20.Rfd1 Qxf2+ 21.Kxf2 Ne4+ 22.Ke3 g5 23.g3 Rc8 24.Nb4 Nc5 25.c3 0-1 Garakov,M (2447)-Al Tarbosh,W (2256) Titled Tuesday intern op 30th May Early blitz 2023 (8)]
11.0-0± **0-0** White has an edge.
12.Rad1 -0.01/19
[12.Nd1± 0.45/18]
12...Rc8 13.Kh1N
[13.dxc5 Nxc5 14.Nd4 Qc7 Mekhitarian,K (2511)-Drozdovskij,Y (2587) Beijing (blitz) 2008]
13...Qc7 14.dxc5 Nxc5 15.Nd4 -0.25/20

[15.Qe1 0.27/19]

15...Rfd8 0.43/20

[15...Ne4!= -0.25/20 16.Nxe4 Nxd4 17.Nf6+ gxf6 18.Bxd4 fxe5 *(18...Qxc2 19.Qe3=)* 19.Bxe5 *(19.fxe5 Qxc2 20.Qe1 Qe4±)* 19...Qxc2]

16.Qe1N 0.04/20

[16.Nxc6 Qxc6 17.Bd4! Ne4 18.Qe3 Nxc3 1.47/21 *(18...g6=* 0.22/18 *)* 19.bxc3± g6 1.88/17 *(19...Rc7±* 1.08/20 *)* 20.Qg3 1.20/18 *(*White should play *20.Bd3+-* 1.88/17 *)* 20...Bc5± 21.Bd3 And now f5 would win. Kh8? 2.90/20 *(21...Rc7±* 1.28/20 might work better.*)* 22.Qh4 0-1 Rodchenkov,S (2346)-Ghimpu,S (2431) Titled Tuesday intern op 26th Oct blitz 2021 (2)]

[16.Nxc6± 0.43/20 Qxc6 17.Qc1]

16...Ne4 17.Nxe4 -0.10/21

[⌓17.Bd3! 0.26/21]

17...dxe4= 18.c3 Bf8 0.37/21

[18...Nxd4= -0.09/23 19.Bxd4 Bd5]

19.Qf2 0.01/21

[19.Bg4± 0.37/21 should be considered.]

19...g6 20.Nb3 Rxd1 21.Bxd1 Ne7 22.Bb6 Qb8 23.Bc2 Nf5 24.Re1 -0.60/24

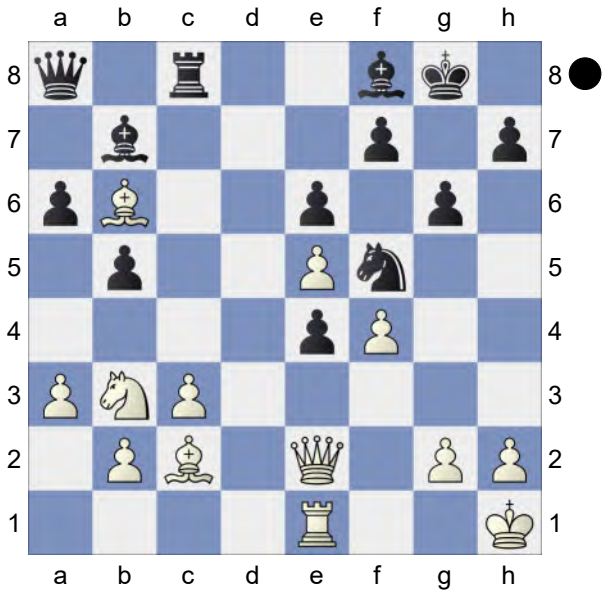
[24.Nd2= 0.03/23]

24...Qa8 0.01/18

[Black should play 24...Be7∓ -0.60/24 25.Bxe4 Bxe4 26.Rxe4 Qb7]

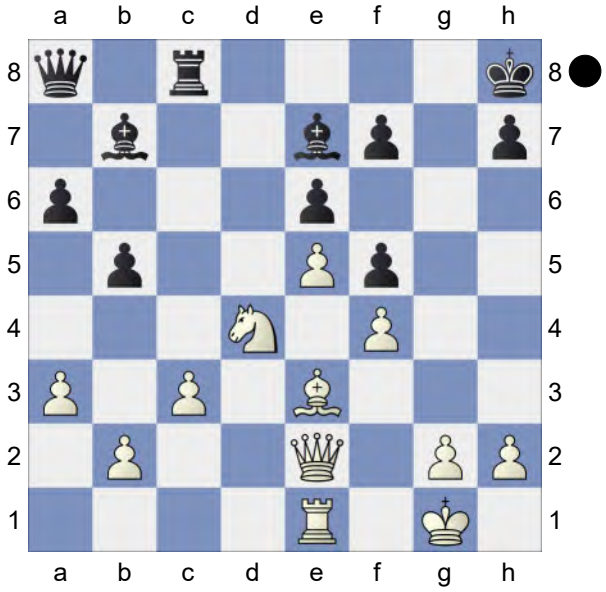
25.Qe2!

(Diagram)



e3! 26.Bxf5 gxf5 27.Bxe3 Be7 28.Kg1 Kh8 29.Nd4? -3.86/23

[29.g3!= -0.16/22 and White has nothing to worry.]



29...Bxg2!-+ 30.Qh5? -10.05/25

[30.Qxg2 Rg8-+]

[30.Bf2 -3.21/22]

30...Rg8 (→ ...Bh1+) **31.Kf2 Bh1 32.Ke2 Rg2+ 33.Kd1 Rg6**

[33...Rxb2 34.Qxf7 Rb1+ *(34...Bxa3? 35.Qf6+ Kg8 36.Rg1+ Rg2 37.Rxh1+-)* 35.Bc1+-]

34.Kc1 Be4 35.Rg1 Qd5 36.Rxg6 fxg6 37.Qd1 a5? 0.01/18
[37...Qc4-+ -2.71/20 Strongly threatening ...h6. 38.Qe2 Qa2]
38.Qb3= b4 39.Qa4
[39.Qxd5 simplifies Bxd5 40.axb4 axb4 41.Kc2]
39...Qd8 Repels Qe8+ **40.axb4**
[40.Nxe6!? Qc8□ 41.Ng5±]
40...axb4 41.Nxe6 Qc8 42.Qb3 -0.90/25
[42.Qb5= 0.01/19 remains equal.]
42...Qa6→ (→ ...Bh4). Black has some attack. **43.cxb4?** -#10/22
[43.Nc5∓ -0.65/23 Qe2 44.Nxe4 Qxe3+ 45.Nd2]
43...Qf1+ 44.Kd2 Bh4 This pair of bishops is nice. **45.Qd1 Qd3+** Black mates. **46.Kc1 Qb1+** Deflection **47.Kd2** Weighted Error Value: White=0.62/Black=0.57 **47...Qxb2+**
0-1

283 **C11**
□ **Great Endgame Play,Mate** **2105**
■ **Kiraly,Zoltan** **2024**
HUN-chT U18 Miskolc (4.7) 28.10.2009
[GM Ioannis Papaioannou,MH]

Even though this game does not feature the Caro-Kann, it's very relevant for our variation. You will see that White's space advantage promises him excellent chances in an eventual knight endgame. C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 cxd4**
[7...b5 8.a3 cxd4 9.Nxd4 Nxd4 10.cxd4 b4 11.axb4 Bxb4+ 12.Bd2 Qb6 13.Nf3 a5 14.Bd3 Ba6 15.Bxa6 Rxa6 16.0-0 0-0 17.Ra4 Bxd2 18.Qxd2 Rb8 19.Rfa1 French-6.c3 ♘c6 7.f4 Survey 2020]
8.cxd4 Bb4+ 9.Bd2 Qa5N
[9...Bxd2+ 10.Qxd2 0-0 11.Nf3 f6 12.h4 Qe7 *(12...Nb6 13.b3 Bd7 14.g3 Nc8 15.Bh3 N8e7 16.0-0 h6 17.Rae1 f5* Seryshev,V (2599)-Semi Slav Cxd5 (2467) 61/82 Tilburg 1994*)* 13.Rh3 b6 14.Nc3 Bb7 15.Bd3 Rac8 16.Rd1 a6 17.Qe2 f5 18.Bxa6 Bxa6 19.Qxa6 Na5 20.Qe2 Nc4 21.Kf1 Qb4 22.Rb1 Na3 23.Rc1 Nb5 24.Qd2 1-0 10.Ne6 Qb6 (2479)-Strange,M (2481) Kobenhavn 82/519 2001 (6)]
[9...Qb6 10.Nf3 0-0 11.Bxb4 Qxb4+ 12.Qd2 C 11/07 2000]
10.a3 Bxd2+ 11.Qxd2 White has an edge. **11...Qxd2+ 12.Kxd2 Na5** 0.57/23
[12...a5= 0.19/24]
13.Nc1 0.19/22
[13.Kc2± 0.57/23 should be considered.]
13...Nc4+= 14.Kc3 Ne3 Hoping for ...Nd1+. **15.Nd3 Nxf1 16.Rxf1 b6** 0.51/27
[16...a5= 0.04/24 was preferrable.]
17.Nf3 Ba6 18.Rc1 Bxd3 1.11/22
[Black should try 18...Ke7± 0.31/24]
19.Kxd3± Ke7 20.Rc7 0.46/25 Black is weak on the dark squares
[Better is 20.g4± 1.22/24]
20...Rhc8± 21.Rhc1 Rxc7 22.Rxc7 Endgame. KRN-KRN **22...Kd8 23.Rc6** 0.22/24
[23.Rc1!± 0.59/24 feels stronger.]
23...h6= 24.g4 Rc8 25.Rxc8+ Kxc8 This is the starting position of our survey. Despite the symmetrical pawn structure, White can create a lot of practical problems for his opponent. The first step is to gain as much space as possible. KN-KN **26.h4 Kd8 27.h5!** A typical way

of fixing the structure. White has 2 winning plans: 1) put pressure on the h6-pawn by playing g4-g5 followed by Nh2-g4 2) break with f4-f5-f6 (after the eventual ...gxf6 exf6, White will be threatening g4-g5) **27...Ke7** 0.66/29

[It's very important that after 27...f6 0.58/28 27...Nb8 0.11 28.Ke3 0.22/27 *(28.Kc3± 0.58/28)* 28...fxe5? 4.03/26 the right way to recapture is *(28...Ke7=* 0.22/27 and Black is okay. *)* 29.dxe5!!+- The d5-passed pawn is meaningless while Black cannot fight against White's kingside pawn mass.]

[In case of 27...Nb8 White can go for 28.f5 Nc6? 6.71/26 *(28...exf5=* 0.08/29 *29.gxf5 Nc6)* 29.f6!+- gxf6 30.exf6 We have already mentioned this typical idea. Black is helpless in view of the break g4-g5.]

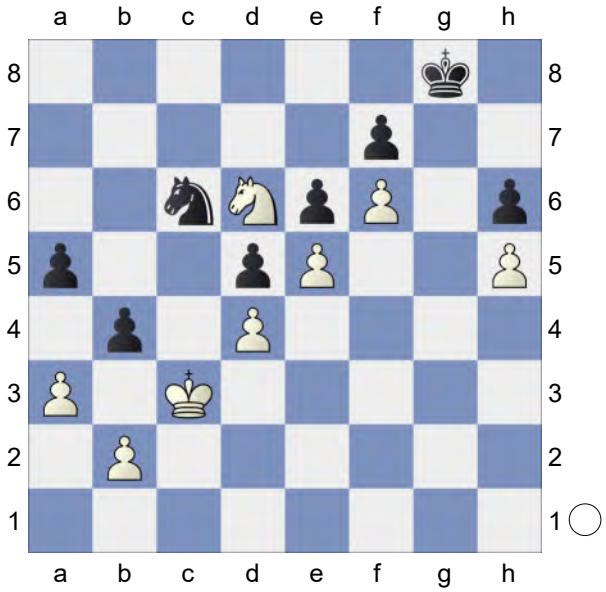
[27...Nb8= 0.08/30]

28.g5!!± When f4-f5-f6 does not work, we go for this idea. White is planning Nh2-g4. Note that before playing the advance g4-g5, you should always calculate the counterbreak ...g7-g6. Sometimes, this option allows Black to create a passed pawn on the h-file. **28...hxg5** 1.33/33 This move allows White to create a distant passed pawn.

[Another option would have been 28...Nb8 29.Nh2! Kf8

A) After 30.Ng4 0.01/28 30.gxh6 0.73 Black has the thematic g6! *(Obviously, after 30...hxg5* 0.75/26 30...g6 0.00 *31.fxg5 Nc6 32.Kc3±* White is nearly winning. *)*;

B) 30.gxh6! This is the right approach. 30...gxh6 31.Ng4 Kg7 1.47/25 *(Black should play 31...Nc6±* 0.57/33 *)* 32.f5!± Another typical break! Nc6 *(32...exf5?* 5.79/27 32...Nc6 0.87 *33.Ne3)* 33.f6+ 0.59/44 *(33.Ne3; 33.b4!±* 1.42/37 *)* 33...Kh7± 34.Kc3 Since Black is playing without a king, White can start playing on the queenside. b5 2.07/41 *(34...a6±* 0.58/36 *)* 35.Nf2+- a5 36.Nd3 Kg8 37.Nc5 Kf8 38.Nb7 Kg8 39.Nd6 1.32/37 *(39.Kd3+-* 1.69/42 *)* 39...b4+? 3.64/33 *(39...Na7±* 1.32/37 *40.b4 a4)*



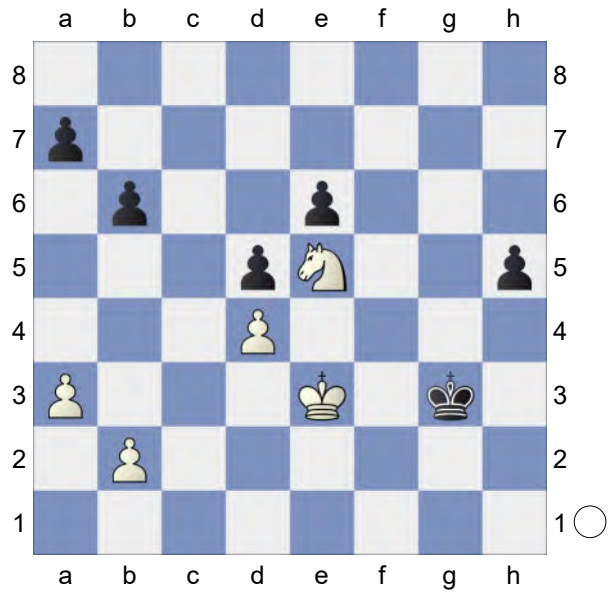
40.Kd3!+- White has a clear winning plan - Nb5 followed by Kc2-b3-a4. The following line is quite illustrative. Kf8 41.Nb5 Ke8 42.Kc2 Kd7 2.29/30 *(⌓42...Kd8* 4.10/32 *43.Nd6 Nxd4+ 44.Kd3 Nc6 45.Nxf7+ Ke8 46.Nxh6 Nxe5+ 47.Kd4 Nf3+ 48.Kc5 bxa3 49.bxa3 Ne5)* 43.Kb3+- Ke8 44.Ka4 bxa3 45.bxa3 Black must now prevent Nd6+. Kd7? 6.00/29 *(45...Kf8* 3.46/22 *46.Kb3 Kg8)* 46.Nd6+- Nxd4 47.Nxf7+-]

[28...Nb8± 0.64/32]

29.fxg5± aiming for h6. **29...f6?** 6.85/28

[29...Kf8± 1.02/25]

30.h6? 0.66/20
[Another winning line would have been 30.exf6+ gxf6 31.g6 Kf8 32.h6 e5 33.Nh4+-]
[Only move: 30.exf6++- 6.85/28 gxf6 31.g6]
30...gxh6!± 31.gxf6+
[But not 31.exf6+ Kf7=]
31...Nxf6? 6.69/23 **32.exf6++- Kxf6±** KN-KP **33.Ke3 Kf5 34.Ne5 h5 35.Nf3 Kg4 36.Ne5+ Kg3**



37.Ng6 Strongly threatening b4.
37...Kg4? 5.41/27
[37...h4? 38.Nxh4 Kg4 39.Ng6+-]
[37...a5 2.40/26 is a better chance. 38.a4 Kg4]
38.b4+- White is clearly winning. **38...b5** 9.11/26
[⌓38...Kg3 4.93/26 39.b5 Kg4 *(39...h4? 40.Nxh4* Deflection *Kxh4 41.Kf4+-)*]
39.Kf2 Kf5 40.Ne5 Ke4 41.Nc6 a6 42.Kg3 Weighted Error Value: White=0.41/Black=0.71
1-0

284 **C11**
□ **Bilquez,Romain** **2071**
■ **Battaglini,Gabriel** **2356**
Syre Memorial op 31st (6) 04.05.2008
[Primel,D, MH]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 a6**
[7...b5 8.a3 cxd4 9.Nxd4 Nxd4 10.cxd4 b4 11.a4 Qa5 12.Bd2 Be7 13.Nf3 0-0 14.Bb5 Steinitz 4 e5 Nfd7 5 Nce2-Intro,N French Defence 2024]
8.Nf3 c4N 1.10/22 une variante trés peu utilisée et plutôt douteuse qui mélange un peu les thèmes de la variante classique ♘f6 et de la Winawer
[8...b5 9.g3 0.21/21 *(9.a3± 0.57/22 c4 10.g4 h5 11.gxh5 Rxh5 12.f5 exf5 13.Nf4 Rh8 14.Qe2 Nb6 15.Rg1 Ra7 16.h4 Na8 17.e6 Bxe6 18.Nxe6 fxe6 19.Rg6 Nc7 20.Bf4 Bd6 21.Qh2 Bxf4 22.Qxf4 Kd7 23.Rxg7+ Kc8 24.0-0-0* 0-1 4.d4 ♘f6 5.♗c4 (2803)-Coll Sola,J (2702) Deutschland 80/340 2000 (1) *Qf6 25.Qg5 Qxg5+ 26.hxg5 Ne8 27.Rg6 Re7 28.Re1 Kd7 29.Rh6 Rg8 30.Bh3 Nd6 31.Rg1 Ne4 32.Kd1 Reg7 33.Rh5 Nd8 34.Ke2 Nf7 35.g6 Rxg6 36.Rxf5 Rxg1 37.Rxf7+ Ke8 38.Ra7 Rb1 39.Bxe6* 0-1 4.d4 Nf6 5.Bc4 (2803)-Coll Sola,J (2702) Deutschland 80/340 2000 (1)*)*
9...b4= 10.cxb4 Nxb4 11.Bh3 Qb6 12.0-0 cxd4 0.74/20 *(12...g6!=* 0.18/20 *)* 13.Nexd4± And now Be3 would win. Bc5 14.Kh1 0-0 15.a3 0.16/23 Prevents a5 *(15.Be3!±* 0.75/22 *)* 15...Nc6= 16.Nxc6 Qxc6 17.b4 Ba7! 18.Bb2 Nb6! 19.Bd4 Nc4 20.Rc1 -0.63/20 *(20.Qd3=*

-0.20/21) 20...Bxd4 21.Qxd4 Qa4 22.Rc3 a5 23.bxa5 Rxa5 24.Ra1 Ba6 -0.18/24 (24...Bb7∓ -0.60/22) 25.f5 exf5! 26.Bxf5 Re8 0.39/23 (26...Bc8∓ -0.34/21 27.Bc2 Qd7) 27.Qa7? -1.40/24 (27.Qg4!± 0.39/23 stays ahead. Nxe5 Discovered Attack 28.Qxa4 Rxa4 29.Re3) 27...Nxe5 -0.45/22 (27...Bc8!∓ -1.40/24 28.Bxh7+ Kxh7 29.Qxf7 Ra7 30.Ng5+ Kh6) 28.Bc2!∓ Qd7! 29.Rc7 -1.32/22 (29.Qxd7∓ -0.58/24 Nxd7 30.Rc7) 29...Qe6!∓ 30.Re1 Be2! 31.Qxa5?? -5.32/20 (31.Ng5∓ -0.87/19 Bf3+ 32.Kg1 Rxa7 33.Nxe6 Rxc7 34.Nxc7) 31...Nxf3-+ 32.Bf5 Qe3? 0.01/20 (32...Qe5-+ -4.97/24 33.Qc3 d4 Deflection) 33.Qxd5!= Ng5 34.Qg2 g6! 35.Rc8 (35.Bg4!? Bf3□ Pin 36.Rxe3 Bxg2+ 37.Kxg2 Rxe3 38.h4∓) 35...gxf5?? 6.06/22 (35...Rxc8= 0.00/20 36.Bxc8 Qxa3 37.Qxe2 Qa8+ 38.Kg1 Qxc8) 36.Qxe2]

[8...Be7 9.g3 cxd4 10.cxd4 b5 11.Bh3 Nb6 12.0-0 Bd7 13.Ne1 Rc8 14.b3 a5 15.Be3 Nb4 16.Nc1 0-0 17.Ncd3 0.33/18 (⌓17.Rf2 0.70/23) 17...Nxd3!± 18.Nxd3 b4 19.Qd2 Bb5 20.Rfc1 Dodges Rc3 Rxc1+ 21.Rxc1 Nc8 0.97/24 (21...Qd7± 0.61/23) 22.f5± exf5 23.Bxf5 Bd7 24.Bxd7 Qxd7 25.Qc2 Nb6 1.55/22 (⌓25...h6 0.85/23) 26.Qc7± Qf5 27.Nf4 Bd8 28.Qc2 Qg4 29.Kg2 a4 30.h3 Qd7 31.Bd2! axb3 32.axb3 Bg5 33.Qc6 Qa7? 3.33/21 (33...Rb8 1.62/20 34.Qd6 Qxd6 35.exd6 g6) 34.Bxb4+- Bxf4 35.gxf4 Qa6 36.Kf2! Rc8? 6.94/29 (36...Rb8 3.64/21 37.Bd6 Ra8) 37.Qxb6!+- Qa2+ 38.Kg3 Qxb3+ 39.Kh4 Rf8 40.Qc5 g5+ 41.fxg5 Rb8 42.Qd6]

[8...Qb6 9.a3 c4 0.81/24 (9...Be7± 0.45/20) 10.g4 h5 11.gxh5 Rxh5 12.f5 Rxf5 13.Ng3 Rxf3 14.Qxf3 Nxd4! 15.cxd4 Qxd4 16.Ne2 Qxe5 1.15/22 (16...Qh4+!± 0.38/24 17.Qg3 Nxe5) 17.Bg2± Bc5 18.Rf1 f6 2.37/18 (18...Nf6± 1.02/20) 19.Qg4 Kf7 20.Rf3 d4? 3.00/23 (20...f5± 1.44/19) 21.Bf4 Qf5 22.Qxf5 exf5 23.Rh3 1.42/18 (23.Rc1+- 2.38/24) 23...Ne5 2.83/22 (23...g5± 1.42/18) 24.Rh8+- d3 25.Bxe5 fxe5 26.Ng3? 0.00/26 (26.Bd5+!+- 2.07/22 Ke7 27.Ng3) 26...e4 27.Nxf5 Bxf5 28.Rxa8 Bd4! 29.0-0-0 e3 30.Rf1 -1.47/22 (30.Rh1= 0.00/28) 30...e2!∓ 31.Rxf5+ Kg6 0.00/28 (31...Ke7!∓ -1.35/27 32.Kd2 c3+ Decoy 33.bxc3 Bxc3+ 34.Kxc3 e1Q+ 35.Kd4 Qg1+ 36.Ke4 Qxg2+ 37.Kxd3 Qh3+ 38.Ke4 Qg4+ 39.Rf4 Qe2+ 40.Kd4 Kd6) 32.Re8!= Kxf5 33.Bxb7 Bxb2+ 34.Kd2! Bxa3 35.Be4+ Kf4 36.Bxd3! e1Q+ 37.Kxe1 cxd3 38.Kd2 Kg4 39.Re3 Bd6 Against Rg3+ 40.h3+ Kh4 41.Kxd3 Bf4 42.Re6 Kxh3]

[8...Be7± 0.57/23]

9.Ng3

[9.g3 Ne7 10.Bg2 Ng6 1.36/23 (⌓10...h5 0.89/25) 11.Be3 0.99/23 (⌓11.Qc2 1.36/23) 11...f5± 12.exf6 Nxf6 13.Ne5 Ne7 1.56/21 (⌓13...Bd6 0.95/21) 14.0-0 0.90/20 (⌓14.g4 1.56/21) 14...Nf5± 15.Bf2 Nd6 16.g4 Be7 17.Ng3 0-0 18.Qc2 Qe8 1.36/25 (⌓18...b5 0.84/21) 19.Rae1 Kh8 1.60/22 (⌓19...b5 1.23/24) 20.Qd1 1.18/24 (⌓20.Be3 1.60/22) 20...Qd8 1.94/23 (20...b6± 1.18/24 21.Qe2 Ra7) 21.g5+- Nfe8 2.36/22 (21...Nd7± 1.53/19 22.Qd2 Nxe5 23.dxe5 Nf5) 22.Be3 Nf5

23.Qh5 Kg8 24.Nxf5 Rxf5 25.Bh3 Rf8 3.73/22 *(⌓25...g6 2.53/21 26.Nxg6 Ng7 27.Nxe7+ Qxe7)* 26.Rf3+- Nd6 5.04/23 *(⌓26...Bd6 3.58/23 27.Bg4 Bxe5)* 27.Bg4 White wants to mate with Rh3. Qe8 28.Qh4 1.87/21 *(⌓28.g6 4.66/23 h6 29.f5)* 28...g6+- 29.Rh3? 0.31/22 *(29.Qf2+- 1.84/22)* 29...Rf7? 3.30/21 *(29...h5± 0.31/22)* 30.Nxg6+- Rg7 31.Ne5 Nf5 32.Bxf5 exf5 33.Bd2 Be6 34.Kh1 Bf7 35.Nxf7 Qxf7 36.Rhe3 Bd6 37.Re6 Qc7 38.Rf6 Rf8 39.Ree6 Rxf6 4.49/29 *(⌓39...Be7 3.01/20 40.Rh6 Qd7)* 40.Rxf6? 0.28/26 *(40.gxf6+- 4.49/29 Rg6 41.Qh5)* 40...Rf7 41.Re6 Re7 1.38/27 *(*Black should play *41...Qd7±* 0.40/24 *42.Rh6 Qe7)* 42.Qe1 0.03/28 *(42.Rf6!± 1.38/27)* 42...Qd7= 43.Rxe7 Bxe7 0.83/23 *(43...Qxe7=* 0.03/27 *44.Qxe7 Bxe7)* 44.h4 0.27/27 *(44.Qe5± 0.83/23)* 44...Kf7 0.63/24 *(44...Bd6=* 0.27/27 should be considered.*)* 45.Kg2 0.10/28 *(45.Qe5!± 0.63/24 Qe6 46.Kg2)* 45...Bd6 0.71/26 *(45...Qe6!=* 0.10/28 *)* 46.Qe2 0.28/24 *(46.Qd1± 0.71/26)* 46...Kg6 0.99/26 *(46...Qe6=* 0.28/24 *47.Qh5+ Kf8)* 47.h5+ Kg7 48.Kf3 0.14/24 *(48.b3±* 1.16/26 *)* 48...Qf7 1.18/27 *(48...Qe7!=* 0.14/24 *)* 49.Kg3 0.15/24 *(49.Kf2± 1.18/27)* 49...Qd7 1.09/27 *(49...Qe7!=* 0.15/24 remains equal. *50.Kf2 Qxe2+ 51.Kxe2 Kf7)* 50.Bc1 0.21/24 *(50.b3± 1.09/27)* 50...b5 0.82/24 *(50...Qe7=* 0.21/24 *51.Qxe7+ Bxe7)* 51.Kh4 0.04/37 *(51.Kf2!± 0.82/24)* 51...a5 52.h6+ Kf8 53.Kg3 a4 54.a3 Kg8 55.Qf3 Qe6 56.Qe3 Qd7 57.Bd2 Bc7 58.Be1 Bd6 59.Kf3 Qf7 60.Kg3 Qh5? 12.71/33 *(60...Qe7=* 0.00/41 *61.Qxe7 Bxe7)* 61.Kg2? 0.00/43 *(61.Qe6++-* 12.71/33 *Qf7 62.Qxd6)* 61...Qf7 62.Qe2 Kf8]

9...Be7 White is better.

[9...b5 10.Be2 Nb6 11.0-0 a5 1.46/21 *(⌓11...g6* 0.96/22 *)* 12.Nh5± b4 13.Qe1 Strongly threatening Qg3. Rg8 2.44/20 *(13...Qc7±* 1.47/17 is a better defense. *14.Qg3 bxc3)* 14.Qg3 Nd7? 3.93/22 *(14...Ne7* 2.11/17 was worth a try. *15.Nh4 Ra6)* 15.Ng5 h6 16.Nh7 2.56/18 *(⌓16.Nxf7* 4.50/20 *Kxf7 17.f5 Ndxe5 18.fxe6+ Ke7 19.b3)* 16...Ne7+- 17.f5 exf5 3.66/22 *(17...Nxf5* 2.47/22 might work better. *18.Qf2 bxc3)* 18.Bxh6+- Qb6 19.Bxg7 Bxg7 20.Nxg7+ Kd8 21.Qg5? 1.03/22 Inhibits Qh6. *(21.e6!+-* 2.96/25 *fxe6 22.Bh5)* 21...Ra6± 22.e6! fxe6 23.Bh5 Ne5? 4.43/21 Against Bf7 *(23...Rh8±* 1.03/21 *)* 24.Qf6? 0.37/24 *(24.Nf6!+-* 4.43/21 *Rh8 25.Rae1 Rxh5 26.Nfxh5)* 24...Nd7 1.19/31 *(24...N5g6!±* 0.37/24 *25.Bxg6 e5 26.Bxf5 Qxf6 27.Nxf6 Rxf6 28.Bxc8 Rxf1+ 29.Rxf1 Rxg7)* 25.Qg5!± Bf7 would now be deadly. Rh8 26.Nf6 Nxf6 27.Qxf6 Rg8 28.Rae1 0.02/21 *(28.Bf3!±* 1.14/22 *)* 28...e5!= 29.Qxe5 Qf6 30.Qxe7+ -0.33/5 *(30.Nxf5!=* 0.03/25 *Qxe5 31.Rxe5 Nxf5 32.Rexf5 Bxf5 33.Rxf5)* 30...Qxe7∓ 31.Rxe7 Kxe7 32.Nxf5+ Bxf5 33.Rxf5 bxc3 -0.02/24 *(33...Rd8∓* -0.40/24 *)* 34.bxc3= Rb6 With the idea ...Rb1+. 35.Bf3 Rb1+ 36.Kf2 Rb2+ 37.Ke3 Rc2 38.Bxd5 Rc8 39.Ke4 Re2+ 40.Kf4 Rxa2 41.Ke5? -3.69/27 *(41.Re5+=* 0.00/24 and White is okay. *Kd6 42.Bf3)* 41...Re2+-+ 42.Be4 Rf8? -1.06/24

(42...a4-+ -4.02/23 43.Rh5 Re8) 43.Rg5? -2.95/26 *(43.Rh5∓ -1.06/24)* 43...a4 Threatens to win with ...a3. 44.d5? -4.56/21 *(44.Rg7+ -2.16/22 Rf7 45.Rg8)* 44...Kd8-+ 45.Rg7 Hoping for Ra7. Re8+ 46.Kd6 R8xe4 47.Ra7 Ke8 48.Rxa4 Rxg2 49.Kc6 Rxh2 50.d6 Rd2 51.Ra8+ Kf7 52.d7 Re6+ 53.Kc7 Re7]

10.Be2?!N b5 1.57/22

[⌓10...f5 0.74/22]

11.Qc2? 0.61/20

[11.f5]

[11.f5± 1.57/22]

11...Nb6∓ 0.98/21 Les blancs ne peuvent plus jouer le 00 et le 000 ne parait pas sain avec la colonne "b" semi-ouverte.

[11...f5± 0.61/20]

12.Bd2

[12.f5]

12...a5↑ Les noirs ont un jeu facile.

[12...Qd7]

13.Nh5 0.10/23

[13.f5]

[13.f5± 1.08/23]

13...g6=

[13...0-0 1.26/20 13...g6 0.17]

14.Ng3 b4 15.0-0 Ba6 0.58/24

[15...a4= -0.06/18]

16.Qc1 -0.21/20

[16.Rfb1 0.19/21 16.f5 0.67]

[16.Ng5± 0.58/24]

16...a4→ 0.25/19

[16...b3! -0.21/20 deserves consideration.]

17.cxb4= Nxb4 18.Ne1?! -0.33/23

[18.Bc3]

[18.h4= 0.27/22]

18...Nc8 0.18/20

[18...Nc6]

[18...Nc6∓ -0.33/23 19.Nc2 0-0]

19.Bc3? Na7! l'attaque blanche ne peut pas durer car la ♕ manque de pièces de soutien. **20.Rf3** -0.66/23

[20.a3 0-1 Kieffer,J (2093)-Battaglini,G (2229) FRA-chT2S 0203 2002 (10.4) Nbc6 21.Bd1 Bb5 22.Qd2 Nc8 23.Nc2]

[20.a3= 0.25/23 Nd3 21.Bxd3 cxd3 22.Rf3]

20...Qb6 -0.03/23

[20...Nb5 21.Bxb4 1-0 Leko,P (2545)-Backwinkel,P (2410) Nettetal 1994 (5) Bxb4 22.Nc2!? Qb6 23.Qe3 Ba5 -0.46/19 *(23...Be7∓ -1.02/19 24.Rb1 0-0)* 24.Bd1± -1.09/20 ½-½ Zawadzka,J (2378)-Andersson,C (2170) EU-ch (Women) 7th 2006 (2) *(24.Kh1∓ -0.46/19)* 24...a3!∓ 1-0 Kostic,B-Pirc,V Bled 1931 (8) ⌓25.bxa3 la grande ligne ⌓Bc3! 26.Rb1 1-0 Calistri,T (2352)-Bilquez,R (2071) Syre mem op 31th 2008 (3). Black must now prevent a4. Bxd4!?]

[20...Nb5∓ -0.66/23]

21.Bd1! Bb5∓

[21...Nbc6]

22.Qd2 -0.48/23

[22.a3]

[22.Ne2= 0.00/25 is more appropriate.]

22...Nac6

[22...Nd3]

23.Nh1 -0.87/24

[23.a3]

[23.a3= -0.19/20 keeps the balance. Nd3 24.Ne2]

23...h5 -0.48/22

[23...a3]

[Black should try 23...a3∓ -0.87/24 24.Nf2 Ba4 25.Bxa4 Rxa4]

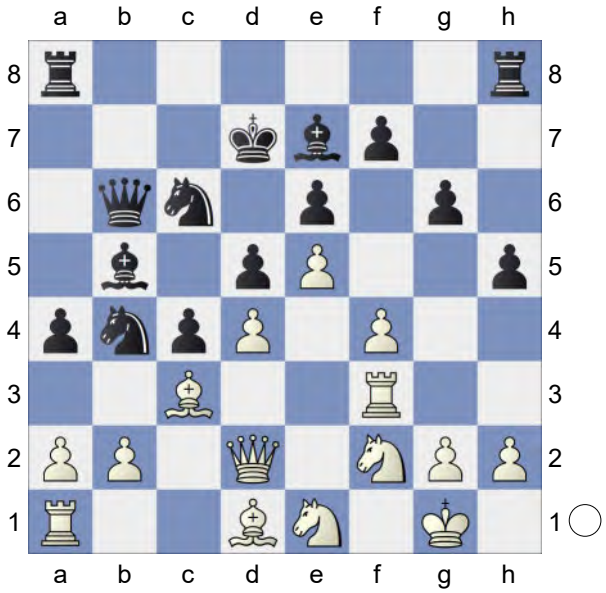
24.Nf2 -0.85/21 Dodges Nd3

[24.a3]

[24.a3∓ -0.48/22 Nd3 25.Nc2]

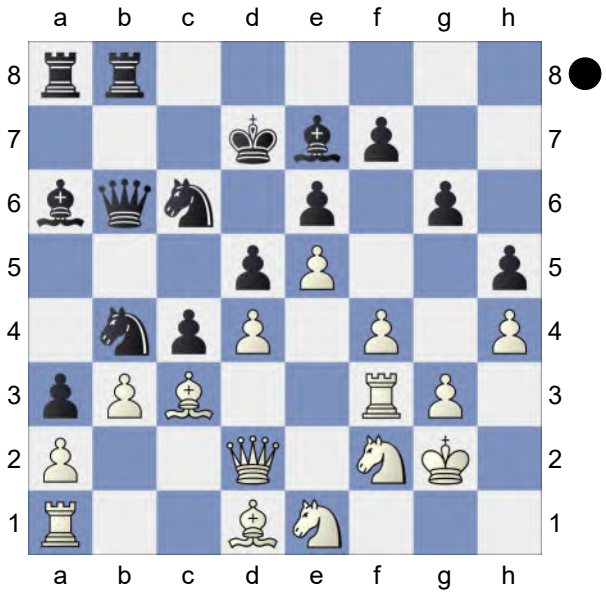
24...Kd7 0.48/19

[24...a3]
[24...a3∓ -0.85/21 25.Rh3 Kd7]



25.h4? -1.03/21 **a3** **26.b3** Prevents Ba4. **26...Ba6-+** -0.59/20 Black is much more active. The white rooks are passive.
[26...Rhb8∓ -1.00/22]
27.g3 -1.28/22
[Better is 27.Kh2∓ -0.59/20]
27...Rhb8 ...Nxa2! is the strong threat.
28.Kg2? -3.83/19
[28.Rb1]
[28.Rb1∓ -1.20/20]

(Diagram)



28...Nxa2! Remove Defender **29.bxc4**
[29.Rxa2 cxb3]
29...Nxc3
[But not 29...Bxc4 30.Rxa2 Bxa2 31.Qxa2-+]
30.cxd5? **Nxd5** Weighted Error Value: White=0.60/Black=0.35
0-1

285 **C11**
□ **Velasquez,Noah** **1817**
■ **Bareev,Evgeny** **2611**
Toronto Candidates Blitz op (1) 08.04.24
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 Be7 8.Nf3 b5N**
[8...0-0 9.Be3 *(9.g3 b5 10.Bg2 b4 11.0-0 bxc3 12.bxc3 Rb8* #3 Classical Nce2-6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 with 9. g3 *)* 9...f6 10.g3 Qb6 11.Qd2 cxd4 *(11...fxe5 12.dxe5 Rd8 13.Bh3 d4 14.Bf2 d3 15.Nc1 Nf8 16.b3 Qa6 17.a4 b5 18.0-0 Bb7 19.Ra2 b4 20.c4 Na5 21.Be3 Nxc4 22.bxc4*

Qxc4 23.f5 exf5 24.Bxf5 Qd5 25.Bxd3 c4 26.Bb1 0-1 9.Nd2 a5/ 14. Qc2 Ngf6 15.Bd3 (2730)-Winter (2628) Moscow IT 3rd 1936*)* 12.Nexd4 fxe5 13.Nxe6 d4 14.Bf2 Re8 15.Be2 Na5 16.f5 Nf6 17.Nxe5 Bxe6 18.Bxd4 Bc5 19.fxe6 Bxd4 20.cxd4 Rad8 Steinitz Variante-13 | Steinitz mit 5.f4 + 7.Se]

[8...a5 9.g3 a4 10.Bh3 g6 11.0-0 b5 12.a3 Nb6 4) French Classical Variation-French Classical Variation 1… e6 Against Everything 2024]

9.Be3 b4 0.77/21

[9...0-0= 0.26/21]

10.Ng3 -0.45/23

[10.cxb4± 0.77/21 cxd4 11.Nexd4]

10...bxc3 Black is slightly better.

11.bxc3 Qa5 Prevents Bb5. And now ... cxd4 would win. **12.Bd2 Qa3** 1.01/24

[12...Rb8= -0.13/21 remains equal.]

13.Be2 0.28/22

[Better is 13.Bb5± 1.01/24 Na5 14.0-0]

13...Ba6= 14.0-0 White wants to play f5.

14...g6 15.Qc1 -0.53/25

[15.Qb3= 0.06/21 Qxb3 16.axb3 Bxe2 17.Nxe2]

15...Qxc1∓ 16.Rfxc1 Bxe2 17.Nxe2 Nb6 18.Be1 Rb8 19.Bf2 c4 20.Rab1 Kd7 21.g4 Na4 22.f5 h6 0.16/22 Black has more active pieces.

[Of course not 22...exf5?! 23.gxf5 Ba3 *(23...gxf5 24.Bg3=)* 24.Rf1=]

[Black should try 22...gxf5∓ -0.75/20 23.gxf5 exf5]

23.fxe6+ -0.25/20

[⌓23.Be3 0.16/22]

23...fxe6= 24.Kg2 g5 25.h4 gxh4 26.Bxh4 Rhg8

[26...Ba3 simplifies 27.Rf1 a6 28.Nd2 Rxb1 29.Nxb1 Be7]

27.Kh3 Rbf8 0.47/24

[27...Ba3= 0.00/25 28.Rf1 a5]

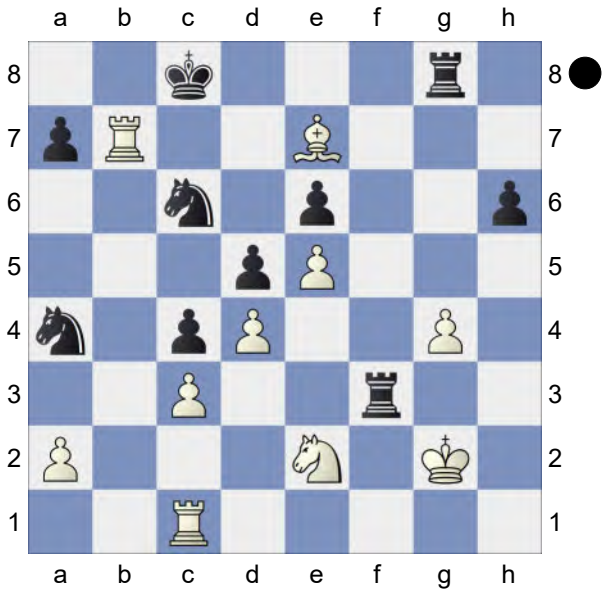
28.Rb7+? -3.08/23 Now White is beyond hope.

[28.Rf1± 0.47/24 stays ahead.]

28...Kc8-+ 29.Bxe7? -4.96/22

[29.Rxe7 -2.29/19 Nxe7 *(29...Rxf3+ 30.Kg2=)* 30.Nd2]

29...Rxf3+ 30.Kg2

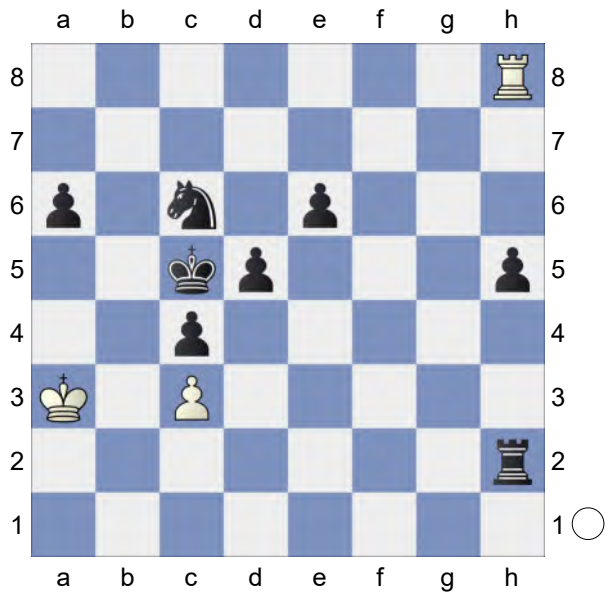


Rxa7 would now be deadly. **30...Re3 31.Kf2 Rxe2+**

[31...Rxg4 32.Kxe3 Kxb7 33.Kf3±]

32.Kxe2 Kxb7 33.Bf6 Rxg4 34.Kf3 Rg6 35.Kf4 a6 36.Rb1+ Kc7 37.Rc1 Na7 38.Be7 Nb5 39.Bb4 Kb6 40.Bc5+ Nxc5 41.dxc5+ Kxc5 Endgame. KRN-KR **42.a4 Na7 43.Rb1 Nc6 44.Rb7 h5 45.Rh7 Rg4+ 46.Ke3 Re4+ 47.Kd2 Rxe5 48.Rh6 Kb6 49.Kc2 Ka5 50.Rh8 Kxa4** Hoping for ... d4. **51.Rc8 Kb5 52.Kb2 Re2+ 53.Ka3 Kc5 54.Rh8 Rh2**

(Diagram)

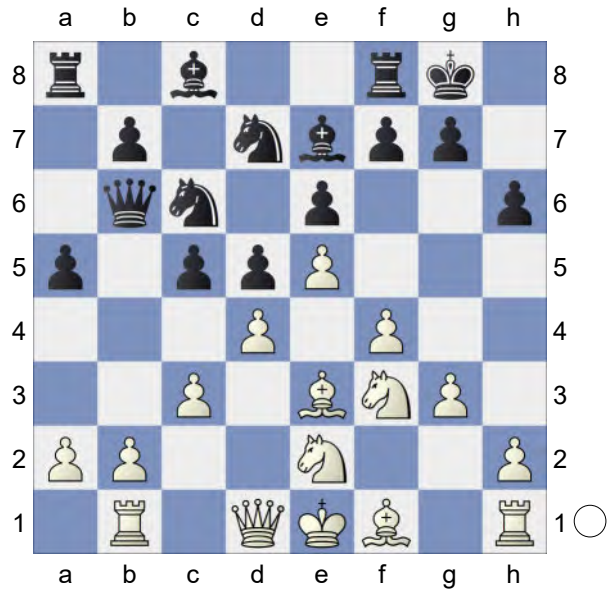


White must now prevent ...Rc2. **55.Rh6 d4** -13.90/19
[⌓55...Na7 -#3/19 56.Rxh5 Nb5+ 57.Ka4 Ra2#]
56.cxd4+ Nxd4 Black mates. **57.Rh8 Nb5+ 58.Ka4 Ra2#** Weighted Error Value: White=0.58/Black=0.20 (precise)
0-1

286 **C11**
□ **Sharku,Rona** **1432**
■ **Krevh,Hana** **1574**
Wch U16 Girls blitz (7) 16.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nce2 Nc6 7.c3 Be7 8.Nf3 0-0 9.Be3** is currently scoring better than 9.g3. wohl besser als 9.g3. **9...Qb6**
[9...a5 10.h4 a4 11.Qc2 f5 12.Ng5 Nb6 13.dxc5 Nc4 14.Bg1 Qa5 15.Nd4 Nxd4 16.Bxd4 Bxc5 17.Bxc5 Qxc5 18.Bxc4 Qxc4 19.Qd2 Bd7 20.h5 Rfc8 21.h6 a3 22.b3 Qxc3 23.Qxc3 Rxc3 24.hxg7 1-0 Oskooei, M (2687)-Cornforth,J (2653) corr FRA 66 Ch 2001 (1)]
10.Rb1N -0.28/20
[10.Qd2± 0.32/18 a5 11.a4 Ndb8 12.h4 cxd4 13.Nexd4 Nxd4 14.Bxd4 Qd8 15.Qe3 Nc6 16.Bb6 Qe8 17.Bd3 Bd8 18.Bxd8 Qxd8 19.0-0-0 Bd7 20.g4 f6 21.Rdf1 Rc8 22.Kb1 d4 23.Qe4 f5 24.gxf5 exf5 25.Qd5+ 0-1 Suarez Uriel,A (2401)-Vergara Anton,D (2415) Roquetas de Mar op 36th 2025 (9)]
[10.Qc1 f6 11.g3 cxd4 12.Nexd4 Nxd4 13.Bxd4 Bc5 14.exf6 Nxf6 *(14...Bxd4 15.cxd4 Nxf6 16.Bd3 Bd7 17.0-0 Bb5 18.Bxb5 Qxb5 19.Qe3 Ne4 20.Ng5 Qxb2 21.Nxe4 dxe4 22.Qxe4 Rac8 23.Rfb1 Qc3 24.Qxe6+ Kh8 25.Rd1 Rfe8 26.Qb3 Qa5 27.Qb2 Qd5 28.Rac1 Rxc1 29.Rxc1* ½-½ Suyarov,M (2477)-Akhmetov,A (2380) Abu Dhabi op-A 30th 2024 (8)) 15.Bg2 Bd7 16.0-0 Bb5 17.Re1 Rae8 18.Qe3 Bxd4 19.Qxd4 Qa6 20.a4 Bd3 21.a5 Be4 22.Bf1 Qd6 23.Nd2 Bf5 24.Qxa7 e5 1-0 Novy,M (2656)-Gorin,A (2255) 99/(108) Brno 2006 (6.4)]
10...h6N 0.31/18
[10...f6 11.Qd2 fxe5 0.01/22 *(11...cxd4∓ -0.53/20 12.cxd4 g5 13.exf6 Bb4 Pin)* 12.dxe5 Qc7 0.52/20 *(12...g5= -0.09/21)* 13.g3 0.10/19 *(13.Ng3± 0.52/20)* 13...b5= 14.Bh3 Nb6 And now ...d4! would win. 15.b3 -0.65/19 *(15.Bf2= 0.21/20)*
A) 15...b4!∓ -0.65/19 16.Rc1 *(16.cxb4 d4)* 16...Qb7;
B) 15...d4 0.33/23 16.Bf2!± Hoping for 0-0. dxc3 17.Nxc3 1-0 Durarbayli,V (2627)-Rogov,M (2191) Titled Tuesday intern op 30th Apr Late blitz 2024 (10)]

[10...f6= -0.28/20]
11.g3± White is slightly better. **11...a5** 0.97/21
[11...cxd4= 0.21/20 keeps the balance. 12.Nfxd4 Nxd4 13.Nxd4 f6]



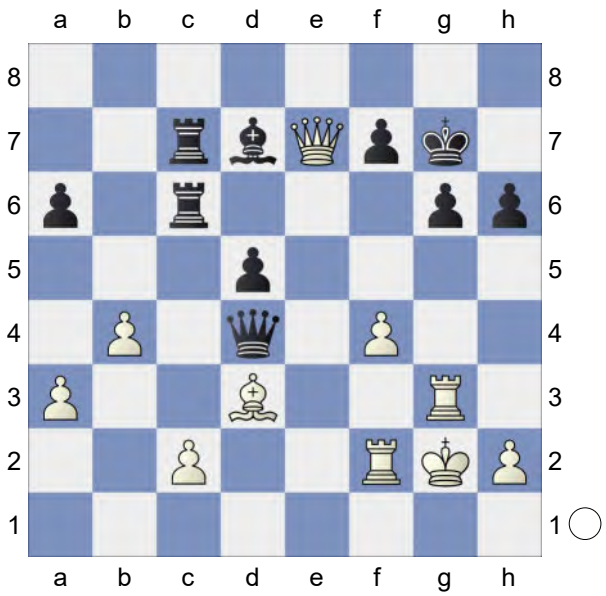
12.Bg2 0.37/19
[12.Bh3!± 0.97/21]
12...c4 1.63/19
[Black should try 12...cxd4± 0.37/19 13.cxd4 Bb4+ 14.Kf2 Qc7]
13.a3 0.91/22
[13.g4+- 1.63/19]
13...Qa6 1.80/20
[13...f6± 0.91/22]
14.0-0 1.15/20
[14.g4+- 1.80/20]
14...b5 2.63/19
[14...f5± 1.15/20]
15.Ra1 1.23/18
[15.g4+- 2.63/19]
15...Qb6 2.49/17
[15...f5± 1.23/18]
16.Qd2? 0.92/19
[16.g4+- 2.49/17]
16...Bb7? 3.12/17
[16...f5± 0.92/19 is a better defense.]
17.Rfe1? 1.10/19
[17.Bh3+- 3.12/17 and White stays clearly on top.]
17...b4 2.16/16
[17...f5± 1.10/19]
18.axb4? 0.50/20
[Better is 18.g4+- 2.16/16]
18...axb4 19.Rxa8 -0.01/16
[19.g4± 0.74/21]
19...Rxa8=
[But not 19...Bxa8 20.Bh3±]
20.Rb1 bxc3 21.Qc2 -3.82/20
[21.Nxc3= -0.03/18 and White stays safe. Nb4 22.g4]
21...cxb2-+ 22.Qxb2 Qxb2 23.Rxb2 Ra1+ 24.Kf2 Ba6 25.Rc2? -9.08/20
[25.Bd2 -3.54/20]
25...Nb4 26.Rb2 Weighted Error Value: White=1.54/Black=0.86 **26...Nd3#**
0-1

287 **C11**
□ **Schmid,Lothar**
■ **Castaldi,Vincenzo**
Venezia 1953
[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 26. PILLSBURY (1872-1906) Pillsbury's healty, robust style of play, and his preference for attack and combination are highly reminiscent of the methods of Alekhine and Marshall. However, Pillsbury was far superior to Marshall in accuracy and judgement of position: unfortunately, his life was too short to allow him the experience to reach Alekhine's level. He showed little inclination to maneuver, but this was natural in view of youth. If his play seemed to lack refinement, this is due to the vigour of his approach **1.e4**

e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.dxc5 Nc6 7.a3 Nxc5 0.53/21
[7...Bxc5= -0.21/21 8.b4 Bxg1 9.Rxg1 0-0]
8.b4 Nd7
[8...d4 9.Nce2 d3 10.Ng3 Qd4 11.c3 Qxc3+ 12.Bd2 Qb2 13.bxc5 Bxc5 14.Ne4 Bxg1 15.Nd6+ Ke7 16.Rxg1 Qd4 17.Rh1 f6 18.Nb5 Qe4+ 19.Kf2 Rd8 20.Qg4 Kf7 21.Qh5+ Kg8 22.exf6 gxf6 23.Re1 0-1 Bauche,T (1978)-Philippe,C (2384) Metz op 31th 2013 (1)]
9.Bd3 Nb6N White is slightly better.
[9...a5 10.b5 Ncb8 11.Nf3 Nc5 12.Be3 Nbd7 13.0-0 g6 14.Ne2 Be7 15.Qe1 Nb6 16.Nfd4 Bd7 17.Qf2 Nba4 18.Rab1 h5 19.b6 Nxd3 20.cxd3 Bxa3 21.f5 gxf5 22.Nf4 h4 23.Ra1 Be7 24.Rxa4 1-0 Ramirez,J-Sierra Vallina,L 27/62 Lone Pine 1979 (64) Bxa4 25.Ndxe6 fxe6 26.Nxe6 Bd7 27.Nxd8 Rxd8 28.Bc5 Rc8 29.Bxe7 Kxe7 30.Qe3 Rc6 31.Qg5+ Kf7 32.Rc1 Rxc1+ 33.Qxc1 Rc8 34.Qe1 h3 35.gxh3 Rg8+ 36.Kf2 a4 37.Qb4 Rg6 38.Kf3 a3 39.Qxa3 1-0 Anderssen,A-Agdestein 039.IX Ch. URSS Leningrad (E.V.) 1934 Rxb6 40.Qc5 Re6 41.Qc7 Ke7 42.Kf4 b6 43.h4 Rc6 44.Qb8 Be8 45.Kxf5 Rh6 46.Qc7+ Kf8 47.Qd8 b5 48.e6 Rh7 49.Ke5 b4 50.Qd6+ 1-0 Pillsbury,H-Lasker,E Tournament GER Nuernberg (9)]
10.Nf3 Bd7 11.0-0 Rc8 12.Ng5 0.70/20
[12.Qe1± 1.14/21]
12...g6 1.10/20
[12...Ne7± 0.70/20]
13.Nb5± White is much more active.
13...a6 14.Nd6+ Bxd6 15.exd6 Qf6 Prevents Bb2. **16.Be3 Na4 17.Qe2 Nd4** 1.48/22
[⌓17...0-0 1.10/20]
18.Qf2 Nf5 19.Ba7 0.46/21
[19.c4± 1.44/22]
19...0-0!± 20.Rae1 0.04/19
[20.c4± 0.46/21]
20...b6= 21.Bxb6
[21.Bxa6? Ra8 22.Bxb6 Rxa6-+]
21...Nxb6 22.Qxb6 Rc6 23.Qf2 Nxd6 24.Qh4 -0.56/22
[24.Nf3= -0.10/19]
24...Qg7 25.Re3 -1.01/22
[White should try 25.Nf3∓ -0.41/20]
25...Nc4 -0.19/20
[Black should play 25...Rcc8∓ -1.01/22 26.Rh3 h5]
26.Rh3 h6⇄ Black is not holding back
[26...h5 simplifies 27.Nf3 e5 28.Bxc4 Rxc4 29.Nxe5 Bxh3 30.Nxc4 dxc4 31.Qxh3 Qd4+]
27.Nf3 e5
[27...Nxa3? 28.Ne5+-]
[27...Rfc8!?]
28.Rg3 fxe5 is the strong threat. The position is equal. **28...e4**
[28...Nxa3? 29.Nxe5 *(29.fxe5 Nxc2 30.Nd4 Nxd4=)* 29...f5 30.Nxc6 Bxc6 31.Re1+- *(31.Bxa6 Nxc2 32.b5 Be8+-)*]
29.Bxc4 exf3
[29...Rxc4 30.Ne5 Rxc2 31.Nxd7]
30.Bd3 Qd4+ 31.Kh1 fxg2+ 32.Kxg2 Rfc8 33.Rf2
[33.Qxh6? is the wrong capture. Rxc2+ 34.Kh1 *(34.Bxc2? Rxc2+ 35.Kh1 Bf5-+)* 34...Rc1-+]
33...Kg7 34.Qe7 R8c7

(Diagram)



And now ...Bh3+! would win. **35.Qe5+**
[Avoid the trap 35.f5? Bxf5 36.Qe3 Be4+ 37.Kg1 Qxe3 38.Rxe3 f5-+]
35...Qxe5 36.fxe5 Re6 37.Re2
Weighted Error Value: White=0.17 (very precise) /Black=0.16 (very precise)
½-½

288 **C11**
□ **Ni,Hua**
■ **Yu,Shaoteng**
Wuxi (Game 30) 2006
[Neil McDonald,MH]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.f4 Nc6 7.c3 Be7 8.Nf3 0-0 9.a3**
[9.Be3 f6 10.g3 Qb6 11.Qd2 fxe5 12.dxe5 Rd8 13.Bh3 d4 14.Bf2 d3 15.Nc1 Nf8 16.b3 Qa6 17.a4 b5 18.0-0 Bb7 19.Ra2 b4 20.c4 Na5 21.Be3 Nxc4 22.bxc4 Qxc4 23.f5 exf5 0-1 9.Nd2 a5/ 14.Qc2 Ngf6 15. Bd3 (2730)-Winter (2628) Moscow IT 3rd 1936]
9...a5 10.Ng3N Here I think the idea of ...f5 is particularly appropriate for Black. Here I think the idea of ...f5 is particularly appropriate for Black. Here I think the idea of ...f5 is particularly appropriate for Black.
[10.Neg1 cxd4 11.cxd4 Nb6 12.Bd3 f5 13.Ne2 a4 14.Nc3 Bd7 15.0-0 Na5 16.Bc2 Qe8 17.Kh1 Nac4 18.Rg1 Rc8 19.Qe1 Kh8 20.Rb1 Qd8 21.g4 Be8 22.gxf5 exf5 23.Ng5 Bh5 24.Qg3 Bxg5 0-1 Rodriguez,E-6. e3 0-0 7.♗d2 47/(11) Moscow 1989]
[10.g3 cxd4 11.cxd4 f6 12.Bh3 fxe5 13.dxe5 Qb6 14.Nc3 Ndxe5 15.fxe5 Nxe5 16.Bg2 Bd7 17.Rf1 Nc4 18.Rb1 Bf6 19.Qd3 Rac8 20.Ng5 Bxg5 21.Bxg5 Rxf1+ 22.Bxf1 Rf8 23.Qe2 Rf5 24.Bf4 g5 Black'S Centre Busting-Nxe5 Sacrifice 2008]
10...cxd4 11.cxd4 White has an edge.
11...f5
[I should point out that Black actually played 11...f6 in this game, which after 12.exf6 -0.19/22 amounted to the same thing. I prefer 11...f5, as it gives White fewer options if he decides against taking on f6, but I won't mind too much if you disagree with me on this. *(12.Bd3* 0.28/21 was preferrable. *)*]
12.exf6 -0.21/23 The drawback to this exchange is that White is relinquishing his iron grip on the centre, and giving the black pieces room to manoeuvre. The drawback to this exchange is that White is relinquishing his iron grip on the centre, and giving the black pieces room to manoeuvre. amounted to the same thing. I prefer 11...f5, as it gives White fewer options if he decides against taking on f6, but I won't mind too much if you disagree with me on this.

[If instead 12.Bd3 , keeping the centre blocked, White's knight on g3 gets in the way of his natural plan of g2-g4. So an obvious riposte is to capture on f6, in order to keep open the b1-h7 diagonal for the white bishop.]
[White should try 12.a4± 0.38/26]

12...Bxf6!? 0.33/25
[An interesting recapture, although the normal An interesting recapture, although the normal An interesting recapture, although the normal 12...Nxf6 doesn't seem bad either.]
[12...Nxf6= -0.21/23 13.Bd3 Qb6]

13.Be3
[White is unable to play White is unable to play White is unable to play 13.Bd3 because Black can simplify to a favourable position with because Black can simplify to a favourable position with because Black can simplify to a favourable position with Nxd4 14.Nxd4 Bxd4 15.Bxh7+! Kxh7 16.Qxd4 Qb6! .]

13...Qb6 Attacking the b2-pawn and so cajoling the white queen to a square where she will be presented with an unwelcome offer to be swapped off. Attacking the b2-pawn and so cajoling the white queen to a square where she will be presented with an unwelcome offer to be swapped off. Attacking the b2-pawn and so cajoling the white queen to a square where she will be presented with an unwelcome offer to be swapped off. **14.Qd2 a4! 15.Rc1 Qa5 16.Rc3**
[White disdains White disdains White disdains 16.Qxa5 -0.33/21 16.Rc3 0.31 Nxa5 when Black can unwind with ...Nb6 and ...Bd7, looking to exploit the b3- or c4-squares with his knight. Instead he wants to attack, even at the cost of the exchange.]

16...Na7 0.90/25
[16...Nb6!± 0.42/21]

17.Qd3 0.39/23
[The calmer course was The calmer course was The calmer course was 17.Bd3 Qc2 would now be deadly. Nb5 18.Rc2 0.13/19 . *(18.Qc2!± 0.84/20)*]
[17.Qc2± 0.90/25]

17...Nb6 0.94/20
[17...b5± 0.39/23]

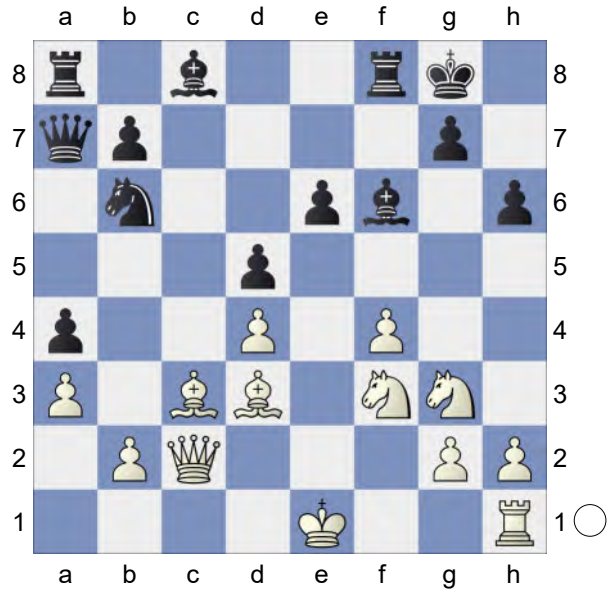
18.Qc2 Hoping for Bd2.
[18.h4 is interesting. Nc4 19.Ng5 Bxg5 20.hxg5 g6 21.Rh6]

18...Nb5 Pin **19.Bd2**
[Thanks to his skilful manoeuvring Black would have a grip on the light squares after Thanks to his skilful manoeuvring Black would have a grip on the light squares after Thanks to his skilful manoeuvring Black would have a grip on the light squares after 19.Bxb5 -0.33/18 19.Bd2 0.58 Qxb5 .]

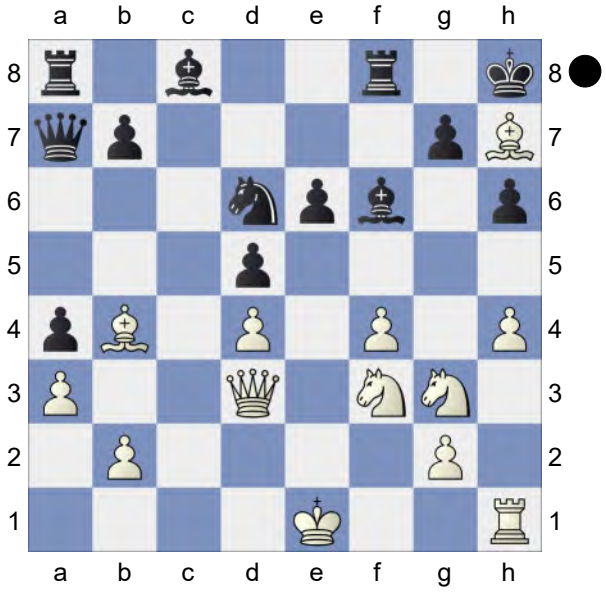
19...Nxc3 1.23/22
[19...Bxd4? 20.Rc7 Qa6 21.Nxd4 *(21.Bxb5 Qxb5 22.Nxd4 Qa6+-)* 21...Nxd4 22.Qc3+- *(22.Rxg7+ Kxg7 23.Qc7+* Skewer *Nd7+-)*]
[⌓19...Nxd4 0.87/23 20.Nxd4 Bxd4]

20.Bxc3± Qa7 21.Bd3 White hopes to justify his sacrifice on the basis that the black queen is shut away and can't help defend her king. Of course, we don't have to believe him. White hopes to justify his sacrifice on the basis that the black queen is shut away and can't help defend her king. Of course, we don't have to believe him. White hopes to justify his sacrifice on the basis that the black queen is shut away and can't help defend her king. Of course, we don't

have to believe him. White has strong compensation. White is more active.
21...h6



22.Bh7+ -0.13/18
[22.Bb4?! Bd7=]
[White should play 22.Qe2!± 1.03/20]
22...Kh8= 23.h4 -0.57/21
[23.Ng5!= -0.18/23 might be stronger. hxg5 24.Qg6 gxf4 25.h4]
23...Nc4∓ 24.Qd3? -2.51/21
[24.Bd3∓ -0.78/18 b5 25.Nh5]
24...Nd6? -1.02/21
[This weakens the e5-square and allows the knight to be pinned. Instead I don't see anything adequate for White after This weakens the e5-square and allows the knight to be pinned. Instead I don't see anything adequate for White after This weakens the e5-square and allows the knight to be pinned. Instead I don't see anything adequate for White after 24...Bd7 , although he can still try to terrorize his opponent with a move like , although he can still try to terrorize his opponent with a move like , although he can still try to terrorize his opponent with a move like 25.Ng5!? .]
[24...Bd7-+ -2.51/21 Strongly threatening ...Bb5. 25.Ng5 e5 *(25...hxg5? 26.hxg5 Nxb2 27.Bxb2+-)*]
25.Bb4∓



Qa6 0.03/21
[Better is 25...Qb6!∓ -0.97/20 And now ...Bd7 would win. 26.Ne5 Bxe5 27.fxe5 Bd7 28.Bxd6 *(28.exd6? too greedy. Bb5-+)* 28...Bb5]
26.Ne5!= Repels Bd7. The position is equal. **26...Bxe5** Remove Defender
[After After After 26...Qxd3? 1.61/21 26...Bxe5 0.04 White even wins because of the pin on d6: White even wins because of the pin on d6: White even wins because of the pin on d6: 27.Bxd3 Rd8 2.35/23 *(*or *27...Be7?* 4.60/20 27...Bxe5 1.66 *28.Ng6+; 27...Bxe5±* 1.53/28 keeps fighting. *28.dxe5 Rxf4)* 28.Bxd6+- Rxd6 29.Nf7+ and 30 Nxd6.]
27.dxe5 Nf5
[27...Qxd3 28.Bxd3 Rxf4 29.Bxd6+-]
28.Bxf5 Rxf5 29.Qxa6 Rxa6 30.Nxf5

exf5 White even has a minuscule edge in the endgame, but the opposite-coloured bishops make it a draw. Weighted Error Value: White=0.32/ Black=0.33
½-½

289 **C05**
□ **Tarrasch,Siegbert**
■ **Noa,Josef**
Hamburg DSB-04.Kongress (1) 1885
[Suetin,A; Neven,K, MH]

C05: French Tarrasch: 3...Nf6 4 e5 Nfd7, 5 f4 and 5 Bd3 sidelines **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 cxd4**
[⌓7...f5]
[⌓7...f6]
8.cxd4 Bb4+ 9.Bd2 Qb6 10.Nf3 0-0 11.Bxb4 0.16/20
[11.h4± 0.68/21]
11...Qxb4+= 12.Qd2 Nb6 13.Nc3 White has an edge. **13...Rd8** 0.73/20
[13...Bd7= 0.19/20 remains equal.]
14.Nb5 0.13/25
[14.h4± 0.73/20]
14...Bd7 15.Nd6 Rab8 16.Rc1 Qxd2+ 17.Kxd2 Nc8 18.Nb5 a6 19.Nc3 N8e7 20.Bd3 White has a spatial advantage and more active pieces, compare for example the two ♗s. **20...Rbc8 21.b3 Nb4 22.a3** 0.07/25
[22.Bb1± 0.86/19]
22...Nbc6 0.49/22
[22...Nxd3= 0.07/25 is superior. 23.Kxd3 Rf8]
23.b4 h6 24.h4 Nb8 1.01/21
[24...Na7= 0.26/25]
25.Ke3 0.28/26
[25.g4± 1.01/21]
25...Rc7 26.Rc2 Rdc8 27.Rhc1 Kf8 28.g4 Be8! 29.Nd2 Nd7 30.Nb3 Nb6 1.09/21
[30...h5!± 0.43/23]
31.Nc5± Nc4+ This does not improve Black's position, as his ♗ continues to lack active possibilities. **32.Bxc4 dxc4 33.N5e4** -0.15/21
[Better is 33.Rf2± 1.09/22]
33...b5 0.64/23
[Black should play 33...h5!= -0.15/21]
34.Nd6 A dynamic duo of knights.
34...Rb8 1.49/23
[Black should try 34...Rd8± 0.50/21]
35.f5↑ 0.90/23 A superb illustration of the classical tenet of accumulating small advantages until a decisive attack can be launched. Black is under strong pressure. White has more active pieces.
[⌓35.Rf2 1.49/23]
35...Bd7 1.95/25
[35...Bc6± 0.90/23 might work better.]
36.Rf2 And now f6 would win. **36...Nd5+** 2.19/21
[36...exf5± 1.56/21 37.gxf5 Rc6]
37.Nxd5+- exd5 Black is weak on the dark squares **38.g5 h5 39.Rcf1 Kg8** 2.26/22
[⌓39...Rb6 1.69/21 40.Kd2 Rb8]
40.g6 1.03/22
[40.Rg1+- 2.26/22 and White stays clearly on top.]
40...f6 2.35/25
[40...fxg6± 1.03/22 was necessary. 41.fxg6 Be6]
41.Re2 Bc6? 5.71/25
[41...Rc6 1.87/23 42.Kd2 Rcb6]
42.Rc1N 2.22/19
[42.Rfe1 Rd8 43.Kf4 aiming for exf6! fxe5+ 44.Rxe5 Kf8 Prevents Ne8 45.Nf7 Re8 46.Ng5 Rce7 47.Nh7+ 1-0 (47) Tarrasch,S-Noa,J Hamburg 1885 [Suetin,A; Neven,K]]

[42.exf6 5.71/25 Hoping for f7+. Rd7 43.Kf4 *(43.f7+ Kf8=; 43.Nf7 Re8+ 44.Ne5 gxf6±* Pin *)* 43...Rxd6 44.fxg7]

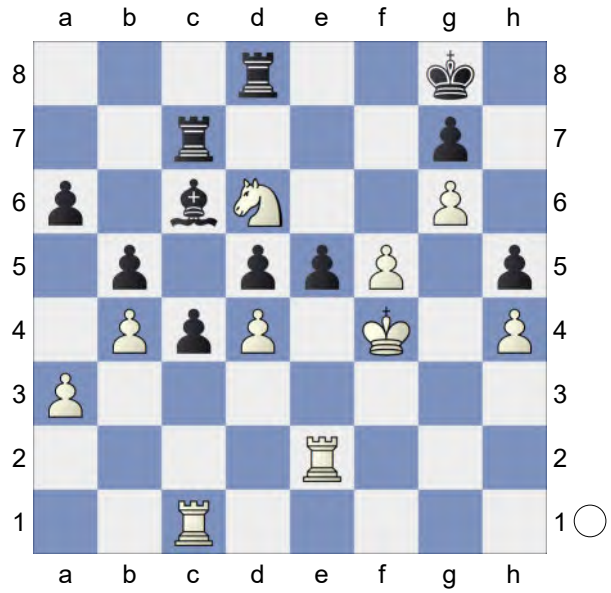
42...Rd8 3.25/22

[⌓42...Bd7 2.22/19 43.Rce1 Rc6]

43.Kf4? 1.23/19

[43.Rce1+- 3.25/22]

43...fxe5+±



Remove Defender **44.Rxe5!** -3.80/19

[44.dxe5± 1.26/19 is forced if you want to stay better. d4 45.Rf2 *(45.Rd2 d3±)*]

44...Kf8 5.20/22

[44...Rxd6-+ -3.80/19 and all is fine. 45.Kg5 Rc8 46.Kxh5 Bd7]

45.Nf7+- White is clearly winning.

45...Re8 46.Ng5 Rce7 47.Nh7+ 1-0 (47) Tarrasch,S-Noa,J Hamburg 1885 French Nc3 [Suetin,A; Neven,K]. Weighted Error Value: White=0.57/ Black=0.67

1-0

290 **C11**

□ **Schmid,Pablo**

■ **Arlauskas,Romanas**

ICCF 16.08.2020

[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.Qd2 Qb6** 0.63/18

[8...Be7= 0.17/17]

9.0-0-0± Qc7

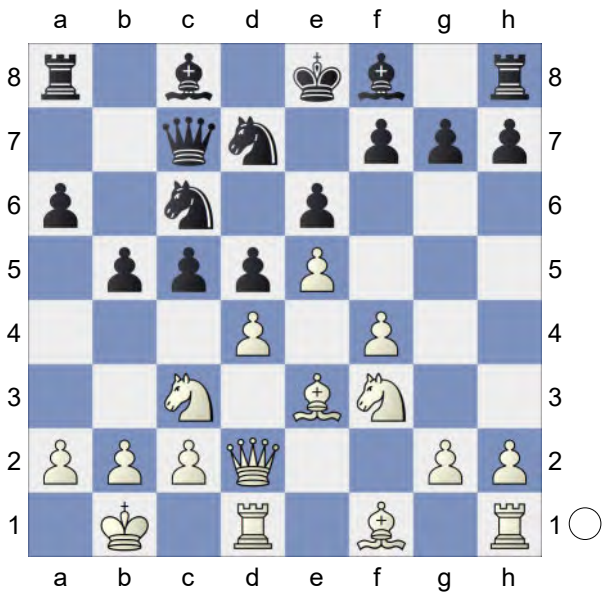
[9...Qa5 10.dxc5 Nxc5 11.Kb1 b5 12.Nd4 Nxd4 13.Bxd4 b4 14.Ne2 Bd7 15.f5 exf5 16.Nf4 Ne6 17.Nh5 Qc7 18.Be2 Rc8 19.Bf3 Ba4 20.b3 Nxd4 21.Qxd4 Qxc2+ 22.Ka1 Bxb3 23.axb3 Rc5 24.Qxb4 0-1 Aronian,L (2805)-Navara,D (2712) Tata Steel-A 74th 2012 (11)]

10.Kb1N White is more active.

[10.dxc5 Bxc5 11.Bxc5 Nxc5 12.Qe3 Qb6 13.Kb1 Bd7 14.Nd4 Nxd4 15.Rxd4 0-0-0 16.Be2 Kb8 17.Rhd1 Rc8 18.f5 Rc7 19.Rg4 g6 20.fxe6 fxe6 21.Rf4 Rhc8 22.Qd4 Be8 23.h4 Rc6 24.Bd3 h6 0-1 Nasuta,G (2518)-Lagarde,M (2626) 22nd ch-EUR Indiv 2022 (6. 29)]

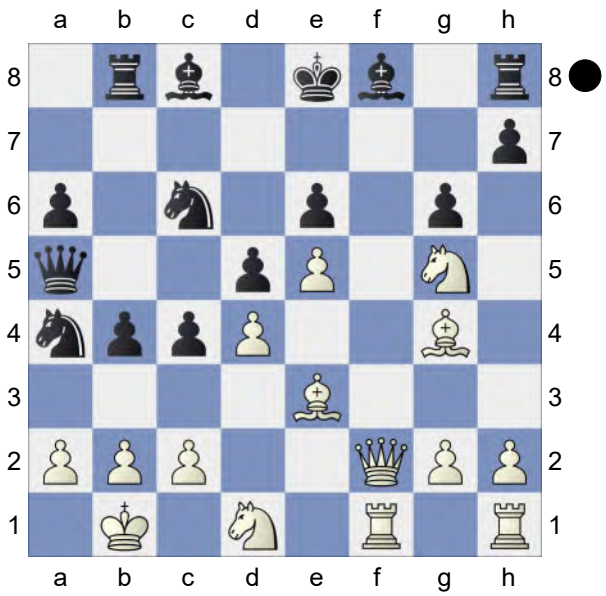
10...b5

(Diagram)

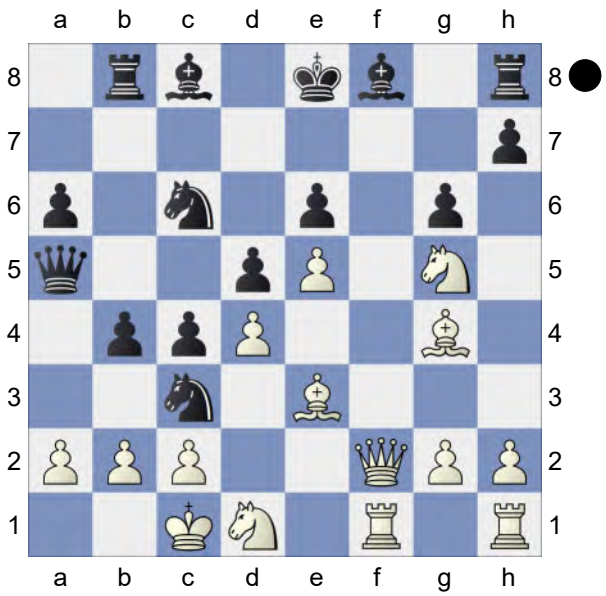


White is slightly better. **11.f5!** 0.05/20 **c4!= 12.fxe6 fxe6 13.Be2** 0.01/21
[13.Qf2± 0.48/19 feels stronger.]
13...Nb6! 14.Rdf1! b4 15.Nd1 Na4! 16.Ng5 Rb8! 17.Bh5+ -0.01/18
[White should play 17.Ka1!± 0.64/18]
17...g6 18.Bg4⇄ White is not holding back
[18.Rf7 Qa5 19.Rxh7 Rxh7 20.Bxg6+ *(20.Nxh7 Nc3+ 21.Nxc3 bxc3∓)* 20...Kd8∓]
18...Qa5! 19.Qf2
[19.Nxe6 Nc3+ 20.Nxc3 *(20.bxc3? bxc3+* Discovered Attack (Check) *21.Ka1 cxd2-+)* 20...bxc3-+]

(Diagram)



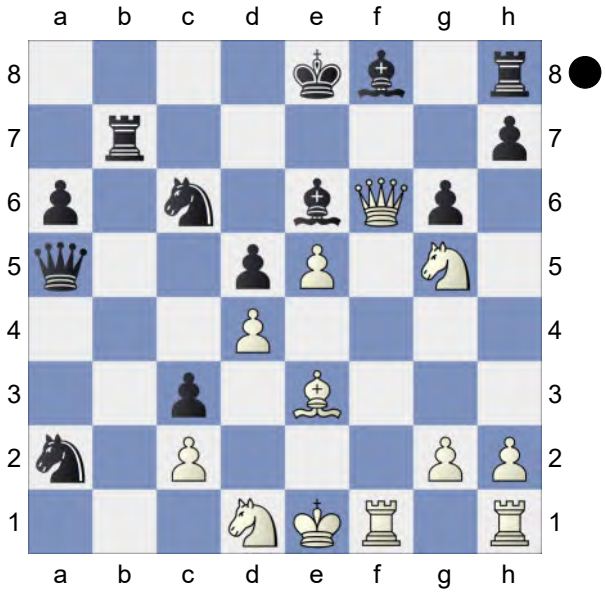
19...Nc3+! Discovered Attack, Double Attack **20.Kc1**
[20.bxc3 bxc3+ 21.Ka1 Qb4 22.Qf7+ *(22.Bxe6? Qb1#)* 22...Kd8 23.Nxe6+ *(23.Nxh7? Qb1#)* 23...Bxe6 24.Bg5+ *(24.Qf6+ Kc7)* 24...Be7 *(24...Ne7 25.Qxf8+ Rxf8 26.Rxf8+ Kd7 27.Bxe6+ Kxe6 28.Rxb8∓)* 25.Bxe7+ *(25.Qxe6? Qb1#)* 25...Nxe7-+]
[20.Nxc3 bxc3]



20...Rb7! 21.Bxe6

[21.bxc3 bxc3 22.Nxc3 *(22.Nxe6? Qa3+-+)* 22...Qxc3-+]

21...Nxa2+ 22.Kd2 c3+! 23.bxc3! Bxe6 24.Qf6 bxc3+ 25.Ke1



Nab4! 26.Qxe6+

[26.Qxh8 Nxc2+ 27.Kf2 N2xd4∓ *(27...N6xd4 28.h3∓)*]

26...Re7 27.Qc8+ Nd8! 28.Rf2

[28.Nxc3? Rc7-+ *(28...Nxc2+? 29.Kf2-+)*]

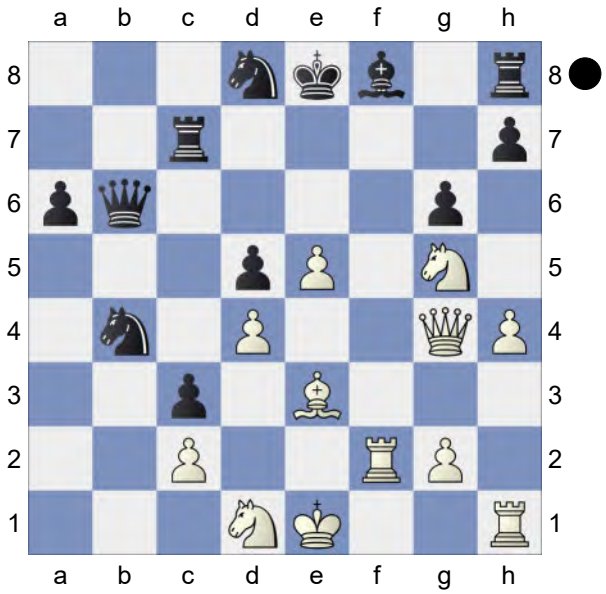
28...Rc7 29.Qb8 Rb7! 30.Qc8 Qb6 Repels Ne6 **31.h4** -0.71/20

[31.Nxc3? Rc7 32.Rf6 *(32.Na4? Qc6-+* Decoy *)* 32...Qa5-+ *(32...Rxc8? 33.Rxb6 Rxc3 34.Bd2-+; 32...Nxc2+? 33.Kd2-+)*]

[31.Rhf1∓ -0.31/19]

31...Rc7∓ 32.Qg4

(Diagram)



Be7 -0.05/16

[Black should try 32...h5!∓ -0.76/18 33.Qg3 Be7]

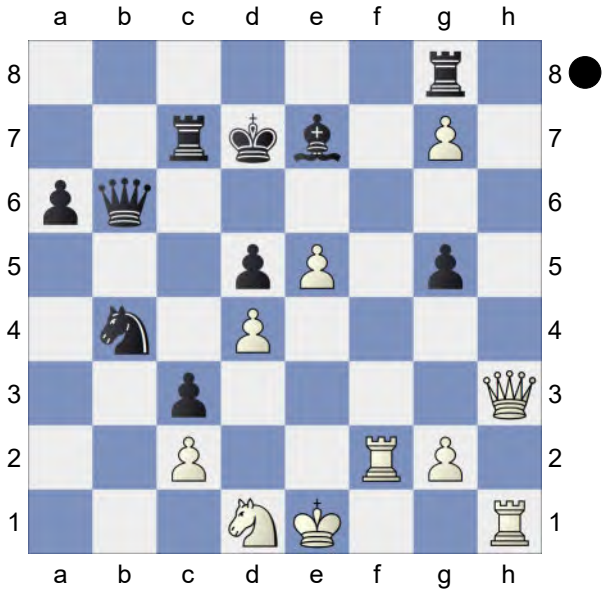
33.h5= h6! 34.Nf7 Discovered Attack **34...Nxf7 35.hxg6**

[35.Qxg6? Qxg6 36.hxg6 Ng5 37.Bxg5 Bxg5-+]

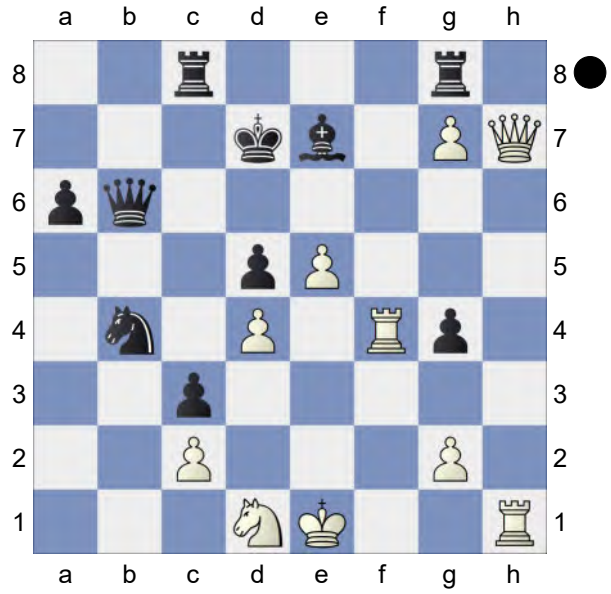
35...Ng5 36.g7 Some like it hot **36...Rg8 37.Qh5+ Kd7 38.Bxg5**

[38.Qxh6? Qxh6 39.Rxh6 Ne6-+ *(39...Rxg7? 40.Bxg5 Bxg5 41.Rd6+ Ke7 42.Rb6-+)*]

38...hxg5 39.Qh3+



g4! 40.Qh7
[40.Qxg4+ Qe6 41.Qg3 Nc6-+ *(41...Rc4 42.Rh8∓)*]
40...Rcc8 41.Rf4



Nxc2+! Deflection **42.Qxc2 Rxg7 43.Ne3!**
[43.Nxc3? Rxc3 44.Qxc3 Bb4-+ *(44...Qb1+ 45.Ke2=)*]
43...Qb2 44.Rf2
[44.Rxg4? loses. Rxg4 *(44...Qxc2? 45.Nxc2 Rxg4 46.Rh5-+)* 45.e6+ Kd6-+ *(45...Kxe6 46.Rh6+ Kd7 47.Qf5+ Kc7 48.Rc6+* Decoy *Kxc6 49.Qxc8+ Kb5 50.Qd7+ Kb4 51.Qxe7+ Kb3 52.Qb7+ Ka2 53.Qxa6+ Kb1 54.Nxg4-+)*]
44...Qa1+ 45.Qd1 Qa5 46.Qc2 Qa1+ 47.Qd1 Qa5 Hoping for ...c2+. **48.Rc2** Black must now prevent Nf5!. The position is equal. **48...Bg5 49.Ke2**
[49.Nxg4 Rf8 50.Ke2 Rf4∓]
49...Qb5+ 50.Qd3 Qxd3+ Remove Defender
[50...Ke6 is more complex. 51.Rb1 Qxd3+ 52.Kxd3 Bxe3 53.Kxe3 Rc6]
51.Kxd3 Bxe3 52.Kxe3 Endgame KRR-KRR. Black is a pawn up. **52...Rf7 53.Rhc1 g3 54.Rxc3 Rxc3+ 55.Rxc3** KR-KR **55...Rf2 56.Rc5 Rxg2 57.Rxd5+ Ke7 58.Kf3 Rg1 59.Ra5 Rd1 60.Kxg3** Weighted Error Value: White=0.08 (flawless) /Black=0.05 (flawless) **60...Rxd4**
½-½

291 **C11**
□ **Macieja,Bartlomiej**
■ **Ivanchuk,Vassily**
14: FIDE World Championship 2001
[Cyrus Lakdawala,MH]

Craig Pritchett: 'Macieja bust in a Steinitz French: In January 2002, Ivanchuk almost became a world champion. At his fourth attempt, he managed at last to negotiate all of the qualifying rounds to reach the final of the fourth FIDE knockout world championship, staged in Moscow. There was a month's break between the final and the qualifying stages (played towards the end of 2001). Having defeated the defending champion, Vishy Anand, 2½-1½ in the semi-final, Ivanchuk was odds-on favourite to return refreshed to the board and take the world title, but he collapsed. --- The surprise winner was Ivanchuk's 18-year-old, Ukrainian compatriot, Ruslan Ponomariov, who won comfortably 4½-2½. Ponomariov deserved all the accolades that came to him and was clearly going places, but this result was a shock. Not only much higher rated than his opponent, Ivanchuk had also been in excellent form throughout the qualifying stages. Prone to live on his nerves, however, Ivanchuk has always found such high tension, short match format events an inordinate strain. At

Moscow, it seemed that he had finally nailed that jinx, but he hadn't. --- Try as he might, Ivanchuk couldn't settle down in the Moscow final and the quality of his play went into decline. Always an intensely private individual, Ivanchuk began to allow himself to become too upset at details his opponent and his team simply ignored. Ivanchuk didn't like the media intrusion, surprise appointments in his opponent's team of seconds, the photography, routine electronic screening and other trivialities, none of which helped him make any impression on an opponent playing excellent chess. --- Ivanchuk must have felt this defeat as a terrible blow. The young Ponomariov had actually won a world title, without ever having met the undisputed world number one, Garry Kasparov - let alone played against him (or Anand or Kramnik). For a while Ponomariov assumed number one status in the Ukraine, but Ivanchuk soon bounced back. Ivanchuk's great love for chess, which has always been his main motivator, helped snap him quickly out of any lingering depression. He accepted his defeat, congratulated his opponent and moved on with impeccable sportsmanship.' C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4** Craig Pritchett Finkel,A: 'ChessPublishing' **1...e6** Craig Pritchett: '. Later in 2002, Ivanchuk gave a good indication that he was returning to form, by sensationally defeating Kasparov in the first round of a high profile rapidplay match, between the Rest of the World and Russia. Rest of the World captain, Yasser Seirawan, deliberately played Ivanchuk against Kasparov first up, as he considered that if anyone could unsettle Russia's best player and set the tone for the forthcoming battle (played on a ten-round, rotational Scheveningen system), it was Ivanchuk. The plan worked - the lower-rated Rest of the World team won comfortably 52-48. --- Rapidplay chess has become a regular platform for top-class chess since the early 1990s. At its best, it can certainly provide games that are fully comparable in quality to play at normal time-rates and it has now become an acceptable way to break most ties in chess. Ivanchuk, the only player to have played in all twenty prestigious Amber rapidplay and blindfold tournaments (1992-2011) - winning two outright (1992 and 2010) and four rapidplay titles (1992, 1996, 1998 and 2010) - has been one of the world's greatest exponents in both of these disciplines, as well as at blitz chess. --- Ivanchuk's skill at rapidplay led to one of the best games played in the Moscow world championship and to one of his own fondest memories from that event. His round two match against the Polish player, Bartlomiej Macieja, was decided quite brilliantly by the outcome of the second game played in their rapidplay tie-break. As Ivanchuk had stumbled at the same stage in two of the three previous FIDE world championships, this magnificent win must also have greatly boosted his spirits. --- In this game, Macieja tried to repeat an ambitious plan that had worked well for Anand against Shirov, in the final match of the third FIDE knockout championship, at Tehran 2000. As he had already lost the first (of the two scheduled) rapidplay tie-break games, Macieja had to gamble, but it was an exceedingly high risk approach

to take. If there was one player in the world who could be guaranteed to have studied this line since Tehran, and to delight in its obscure complications, it was the ever hard working and sharp counter-punching Ivanchuk.' **2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2** Craig Pritchett: 'One of Steinitz's myriad inventions, which he first introduced and played successfully at Vienna 1873, White aims to set up an impregnable d4/e5 pawn centre supported by f2-f4 and c2-c3. Anand famously revived the line going into the 21st century, using it as a major weapon in winning the knockout world championship at Tehran 2000.'

[The newly crowned FIDE world champion then dropped the line, which had brought him numerous wins, reverting to White's most popular continuation 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 .]

5...c5 Craig Pritchett: '. According to Alekhine, writing in 'The Book of the New York International Chess Tournament 1924', Steinitz's original idea misplaces White's queen's knight, blocks his king's bishop, and is likely to require too much time to unravel White's development to be convincing. Anand (and Steinitz before him) didn't entirely agree with this assessment - but it's certainly at the heart of any debate.' **6.f4** Finkel,A: 'ChessPublishing: 'The point of this move order rather than 6.c3 seems to be to sidestep the line"

[6.c3 ChessPublishing cxd4 7.cxd4 f6!? It allows 6...cxd4 but then 7.Nxd4 gives White the initiative in the centre, even if his d pawn has disappeared. Ivanchuk therefore prefers to go into the mainline, especially as it appears he had a new idea ready!]

6...Nc6 7.c3 Be7 Ivanchuk holds back on ...Qb6. To my mind, this may be Black's sneakiest and best move order in the chapter. QUESTION: But won't the game simply transpose when Black plays ...Qb6 later on? ANSWER: It would but this is under the assumption that Black will play the move, which he may or may not. QUESTION: What would be the point of holding back on ... Qb6? ANSWER: If we briefly review the Anand-Shirov game from earlier in the chapter, Shirov retreated his queen from b6 to c7. In this case, Ivanchuk may be trying to reach the same position a full move up. QUESTION: Why does Black sometimes move the queen back to c7 in this line? ANSWER: Two reasons: 1. Black may opt to develop the c8-bishop with ...b6 and ...Ba6 (this plan was suggested in the notes to the Anand-Shirov game). In order to do so, the queen must be removed from b6. 2. If you recall, Shirov retreated his queen to c7 to set up a piece sac on e5. Imagine what Shirov could have done if he was handed a full tempo in that game. Ivanchuk holds back on ...Qb6. To my mind, this may be Black's sneakiest and best move order in the chapter. QUESTION: But won't the game simply transpose when Black plays ...Qb6 later on? ANSWER: It would but this is under the assumption that Black will play the move, which he may or may not. QUESTION: What would be the point of holding back on ...Qb6? ANSWER: If we briefly review the Anand-Shirov game from earlier in the chapter, Shirov retreated his queen from b6 to c7. In this case, Ivanchuk may be trying to reach the same position a full move up. QUESTION: Why does Black sometimes

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[The alternative is Neil McDonald: 'You can find' 7...Qb6 Finkel,A: '(ChessPublishing) in several other games on the ChessPub.' 8.Nf3 f6 .

A) . V.Anand-A.Shirov, FIDE World Championship (4th matchgame), Tehran 2000, had gone 9.a3 Be7 10.h4 0-0 11.Rh3 a5 Craig Pritchett: '!?' 12.b3 Qc7 (his second queen move) 13.Neg1 Craig Pritchett: '.'

A1) here 13...b6 , and if 14.Be3 *(*or *14.Bd3!? cxd4 15.cxd4 fxe5 16.fxe5 Ncxe5!)* 14...Ba6 may be better;

A2) 13...a4 14.b4 fxe5 15.fxe5 Ndxe5 16.dxe5 Nxe5 17.Nxe5 Qxe5+ 18.Qe2 Bxh4+?! *(18...Qc7!* was correct*)* 19.Kd1 Qf6?! 20.Nf3 Qxc3?! 21.Bb2 Qb3+ 22.Kc1 and White won.;

B) . In the early 1900s, White players had tended to prefer 9.g3 , with the idea of developing the light-squared bishop on h3. Anand preferred to play on both flanks (hence his 9 a3), which was "new" - although there is some evidence to suggest that Steinitz, too, may have thought that White might play like this. At any rate, Alekhine, concerned only with 9 g3 and Bh3 plans, considered that they had been virtually "refuted" in two games played by Maróczy, whose critical discovery was a sharp ...g7-g5 idea that is still of interest. S. Alapin-G.Maróczy, Vienna 1908, had gone cxd4 10.cxd4 (M.Chigorin-G.Maróczy, Karlsbad 1907, had varied with *10.Nexd4*

Nxd4 11.Nxd4 Be7 12.Qg4 Kf7 13.Bh3 f5 14.Qe2 Nc5 15.Be3 Qxb2 16.Qxb2 Nd3+ 17.Kd2 Nxb2 and Black won*)* 10...fxe5 11.fxe5 Bb4+ 12.Nc3 0-0 13.Bf4 Be7 14.Qd2?! *(14.a3!?* , and if *g5 15.Na4 Qd8 16.Be3 g4 17.Nh4* is less clear*)* 14...g5! 15.Nxg5 Bxg5 16.Bxg5 Nxd4 17.0-0-0 *(* S.Dolmatov-E.Bareev, Russian Championship, Elista 1997, later diverged with *17.Bg2 Nxe5 18.0-0-0 Rf2 19.Qxf2 Nb3+* , winning the queen*)* 17...Nf3 18.Be3 Nxd2 , winning a pawn.;

C) 9.--]

8.Nf3 0-0 9.a3 I just have a feeling it's a bad idea to take the Anand-Shirov route.

[Perhaps, White should veer away with Craig Pritchett: 'The g2-g3/Bh3 idea still doesn't convince. In G. Maróczy-Em.Lasker, New York 1924, Black simply relied on his superior development and the solidity of his kingside, while White became increasingly frustrated at his inability to achieve anything concrete:' 9.g3! -0.20/22 9.Be3 0.16

A) 9...f5 0.45/20 9...b5 -0.13 10.Bg2 0.09/20 *(10.Bh3⩲* 0.45/20 should be considered.*)* 10...cxd4 11.Nfxd4 Nc5 12.Be3 Ne4 13.0-0 Na5 14.a4⩲ Vasiukov,E-Vifian,U/ Leningrad 1991;

B) 9...cxd4 10.cxd4 . Black can take advantage of the tempo saved in eschewing...Qb6 by occupying the square with his knight, playing it in Leningrad Tarrasch fashion with Craig Pritchett: '?!' *(10.Nexd4* is safer - Alekhine *)* 10...Nb6!?

B1) 11.Bh3!? Bd7 12.0-0 Rc8 13.g4?! f6 14.exf6 Bxf6 15.g5 Be7 16.Kh1?! 0.00/23 *(16.b3!⩲* 0.39/21 *)* 16...Nc4= 17.Nc3 -0.55/24 *(17.b3=* 0.00/23 *Nd6 18.Ng3)* 17...Bb4 18.Qe2 Re8 19.Qd3 Nd6 20.f5? -1.40/21 *(20.Bd2* -0.92/21 20.Ne2 -0.54 *Na5* was essential*; 20.Ne2∓* -0.52/22 *)* 20...Nxf5∓ 21.Nxd5 Bd6 -0.98/21 *(21...Rf8!-+* -1.82/22 *22.Bxf5 Rxf5)* 22.Bxf5 -2.25/20 *(22.Bd2∓* -0.98/21 *)* 22...exf5-+ 23.Nf4? -3.62/23 *(23.a3* -2.05/20 *)* 23...Re4 24.Qb3+ Kh8 25.Nh4 -6.96/18 *(⌓25.Rd1* -4.10/19 *)* 25...Nxd4-+ 26.Qh3 Rc2 27.g6 Bc6 28.Nf3 h6 (→ ...Nxf3) 29.Ne6 Nxe6 30.Bxh6 Rh4 0-1.;

B2) 11.Bg2 a5 *(I would play 11...f5* first *)* 12.0-0 a4 13.g4 a3 0.53/23 *(13...Nc4=* 0.00/22 *)*

B2a) Instead, White should probably have opted for 14.b3

B2a1) Black can also consider 14...f5!? 0.93/22 14...Bd7 0.55 15.gxf5 Rxf5 1.46/26 *(⌓15...exf5* 0.98/23 *16.Kh1 Kh8)* 16.Bh3± Rf8 1.90/21 *(16...Rf7±* 1.47/24 *)* 17.Ng5 0.88/26 *(17.Kh1+-* 1.90/21 has better winning chances. *)* 17...Bxg5± 18.fxg5 Bd7;

B2a2) 14...Bd7 15.Ng3 Nb4 16.f5 Bb5 17.Rf2! Nd7 18.f6 0.00/25 *(18.Bf1!⩲* 0.40/20 *Bxf1 19.Kxf1)* 18...gxf6= 19.Qd2 fxe5 20.Qh6 Kh8 21.Ng5 Bxg5! 22.Bxg5 f6 23.Nh5! Qe7 Against Qg7+ 24.Nxf6 Qg7 25.Nxd7 Rxf2 26.Kxf2 Qxh6! 27.Bxh6 Bxd7

28.dxe5 Rc8 . I prefer Black's chances in this ultra-sharp ending, despite White's bishop pair, dark-square control and potential for back rank tactics. This is because: 1. He ties White down to the defence of the a2-pawn. 2. Black's rook may infiltrate down the open c-file (as long as Black's king doesn't get back rank mated!). 3. Black's bishop can control the f1-square with ...Bb5. . I prefer Black's chances in this ultra-sharp ending, despite White's bishop pair, dark-square control and potential for back rank tactics. This is because: 1. He ties White down to the defence of the a2-pawn. --- 2. Black's rook may infiltrate down the open c-file (as long as Black's king doesn't get back rank mated!). --- 3. Black's bishop can control the f1-square with ...Bb5.;

B2b) 14.b3± 0.53/23;

B2c) 14.bxa3?! -0.11/20, B.Socko-M.Gurevich, Venaco 2005.]

9...a5 Halting b4 and preparing the standard bind with ...a4 and a future ...Na5. Finkel,A: ''!' ChessPublishing. ChessPublishing: 'Stopping Whit e's queenside expansion with b2-b4 is one of the key elements of Black's opening system.'' Neil McDonald: '!' Neil McDonald: 'Stopping White's queenside expansion with b2-b4 is one of the key elements of Black's opening system.'

[9...c4 0.59/23 9...f6 0.06 10.Ng3 Nb6 0.90/23 *(10...f5± 0.36/23)* 11.h4 0.20/23 *(11.Be3± 0.90/23)* 11...Bd7 0.93/21 *(11...f5=* 0.20/23 *)* 12.b4 0.12/21 *(12.Ng5!±* 0.93/21 *)* 12...cxb3= 13.Bd3! Qc8? 1.88/21 *(13...h6=* 0.21/21 and Black stays safe. *)* 14.Bxh7++- Kxh7? #5/15 *(14...Kh8+-* 1.78/17 *)* 15.Ng5+ Kg8 16.Qh5 Bxg5 17.hxg5 1-0 Skaperdas, K-Hatzileonidas,P/Korinthos 2000/EXT 2001 (17)]

10.h4?! An ill-advised project. Why labour to fix an elementally dysfunctional line? I repeat that emulating the Anand-Shirov game plays into Black's hands. An ill-advised project. Why labour to fix an elementally dysfunctional line? I repeat that emulating the Anand-Shirov game plays into Black's hands. Craig Pritchett: '!?' '!?' Craig Pritchett: 'Macieja continues to follow the Anand plan, but Black can still resolutely avoid committing his queen to b6 for a few more moves. White might also consider 10 Ng3 or 10 g3, although Black should be fine against these moves, too.' Finkel,A: ''?!' ChessPublishing. ChessPublishing: 'If'' Neil McDonald: 'Exactly what Ivanchuk was hoping for. White carries on with the standard plan as used by Anand and others in this line after Qb6. However, in this case Black can exploit the fact that his queen is still on d8.'

[White can consider the following alternatives: GM Neil McDonald suggests White can consider the following alternatives: GM Neil McDonald suggests Craig Pritchett: 'After' White can consider the following alternatives: GM Neil McDonald suggests 10.Ng3

though my preference is for Black following Finkel,A: "!' ChessPublishing. ChessPublishing: 'when if'' Neil McDonald: '!' Neil McDonald: 'Instead'

A) 10...cxd4 11.cxd4 f6 12.Bd3 fxe5 13.dxe5 -0.38/20 *(13.fxe5* Craig Pritchett *Qb6* looks good for Black*; 13.fxe5±* 0.52/21 *Qb6 14.Rf1)* 13...Nc5∓ 14.Bb1 b6 15.h4 Black must now prevent Ng5. Qe8∞ -0.13/20 Klimov,S-Volkov,S/St Petersburg 1998/CBM 67 *(15...Ba6∓* -0.87/23 *16.Ng5 h6)*;

B) 10...Qb6 (ChessPublishing) Instead 11.Bd3 and White has been able to transfer his bishop to the strong diagonal b1-h7. Note that this wasn't an option in the normal Qb6 line as Black had deferred castling- therefore Black could take on d4 without losing to a Bxh7+.;

C) 10...f6 (Craig Pritchett) , E. Pähtz-B.Socko, Isle of Man 2006, continued 11.Bd3?! Craig Pritchett cxd4;

D) 10...f5 Finkel,A: "!?' ChessPublishing. ChessPublishing: 'might be best when Black looks very solid.'' Neil McDonald: '!?' 11.exf6 -0.28/23 *(11.Bd3 cxd4 12.cxd4 Nb6 13.Ne2 a4 14.0-0 Na5 15.Kh1 Bd7∞* Lanka,Z-Lupu,M/Calimanesti 1992/EXT 98*; 11.a4±* 0.45/25 *)* 11...Nxf6= Craig Pritchett: ', and if' 12.Bd3 Qb6 13.Bc2 cxd4 14.cxd4 Bd6 15.Qd3 Bd7 16.Bd2 -0.95/24 *(16.0-0* with roughly equal chances.*; 16.Nh5∓* -0.40/23 *Ne4 17.Ng3)* 16...Rac8∓ and White looks somewhat tied down, having to worry about the b2-, d4- and f4-pawns, E.Paehtz-D.Swiercz, Potsdam 2012. If 17.0-0 , Black has e5! and if White bites with 18.fxe5? -1.92/20 *(18.Qb3∓* -1.06/23 *Qxb3 19.Bxb3 Nxd4 20.Nxd4)* 18...Nxe5-+ 19.Nxe5 -1.39/22 *(19.Qb3-+* -1.90/23 *Bb5 20.a4 Rxc2 21.Qxc2 Bxf1 22.Rxf1)* 19...Bb5! wins material.]

[I think White's best is once again to stay far away from Anand-Shirov territory with I think White's best is once again to stay far away from Anand-Shirov territory with Craig Pritchett: 'D.Baramidze-N.Short, FIDE World Cup, Khanty-Mansiysk 2007, went' 10.g3! -0.42/21 10.Ng3 0.34

A) 10...f6 0.25/20 10...a4 -0.46 11.Bh3 fxe5! 12.dxe5 Nb6 13.0-0 -0.90/21 *(13.a4=* -0.12/24 keeps the balance.*)* 13...a4∓ 14.Qc2 Nc4! 15.Bd2 Qb6 16.Rab1 Qb3 17.Qc1 Bd7 with double-edged play and an eventual draw.;

B) 10...cxd4 11.cxd4 f6 0.19/21 *(11...b5* -0.28/21 deserves consideration.*)* 12.Bh3 -0.25/23 *(⌓12.exf6* 0.19/21 *Nxf6 13.Nc3)*

B1) Better is 12...fxe5!= -0.25/23 13.dxe5

B1a) 13...Qb6 14.Bxe6+ *(14.Nc3 Ndxe5 15.fxe5 Nxe5 16.Bg2 Bd7 17.Rf1 Nc4 18.Rb1 Bf6 19.Qd3 Rac8 20.Ng5 Bxg5 21.Bxg5 Rxf1+ 22.Bxf1 Rf8 23.Qe2 Rf5 24.Bf4 g5 25.Nxd5 exd5 26.Bb8 Rf8* Black'S Centre Busting-Nxe5 Sacrifice 2008*)* 14...Kh8 15.Qxd5 Nc5 16.Bxc8 Rd8 17.Qxd8+ Qxd8 18.Bf5 Nd3+ 19.Kf1 Ndxe5

20.Kg2 Nxf3 21.Kxf3 Qd5+ 22.Be4 Qh5+ 23.g4 Qh3+ 24.Ng3 Nd4+ 25.Kf2 Qxg4 26.Be3 Bh4 27.Rae1 Nf5 28.Bxf5 0-1 3.Nd2 g6 4.Ngf3 Bg7 5.Be2 e5 (2561)-Bruce,R (2571) chess.com (ol-rapid) 147/43 2020;

B1b) 13...Nc5;

B2) 12...Nb6 0.42/24 also seems quite playable;

C) 10...a4! (I believe this is an improvement over other moves) 11.Kf2 -0.81/21 *(11.Bh3∓ -0.45/22)* 11...b6 -0.28/18 and Black intends ...Ba6 with a decent position. *(11...Nb6∓ -0.81/21)*]

[Neil McDonald: 'If' 10.b3 (ChessPublishing) Black could try b6 0.49/21 followed by Ba6, but much more testing was *(10...b5∓ -0.69/21 11.h4 f6)*]

10...f6 Craig Pritchett: 'Black still makes moves that more or less "must" be played in such positions. This move and ...c7-c5 put substantial pressure on the centre. Even though White can usually maintain pawns on d4 and e5, after eventual pawn exchanges on d4 and e5, he will remain behind in development. Black has free play on the f-file and a range of possible ways to increase pressure on the centre, including the kind of knight sacrifice for both of White's centre pawns that occurred in Anand-Shirov. White's pawn on d4 is particularly vulnerable, and his h-pawn might also soon become a target.'. Prevents Ng5. **11.Neg1N** -0.51/23 The blame for White's coming deterioration can be laid at this move's door. Macieja's high opinion of his position's likelihood for success doesn't seem to be justified by the actual facts. The plan, however pedigreed with precedent, also contains a serious blemish. White, apparently enamoured with the Anand-Shirov game, may not realize he is headed there a full move down. Here, it's even worse since Black returns to the ...Qb6 plan, vindicated by the knowledge that the d4-pawn is weak. But it doesn't really matter which way he plays. The blame for White's coming deterioration can be laid at this move's door. Macieja's high opinion of his position's likelihood for success doesn't seem to be justified by the actual facts. The plan, however pedigreed with precedent, also contains a serious blemish. White, apparently enamoured with the Anand-Shirov game, may not realize he is headed there a full move down. Here, it's even worse since Black returns to the ...Qb6 plan, vindicated by the knowledge that the d4-pawn is weak. But it doesn't really matter which way he plays. Craig Pritchett: '!?' '!?' Finkel,A: '!?' Finkel,A: ''?' ChessPublishing. ChessPublishing: 'If you look at Anand-Shirov in Teheran and other encounters in this line, you will see that after Rh3 or b2-b3 by White, with the black queen on b6, the plan of retreating the queen with Qc7 followed by b7-b6 and then Ba6 was suggested. Well here the black queen is still sitting on d8, so after'' Neil McDonald: '?' Finkel,A: 'It's hard to say where the knight is better placed, but a move in the game looks too slow.'

[I can't find a way to avoid the move-down scenario! For example: After I can't find a way to avoid the move-down scenario! For example: After Craig Pritchett: 'Anand also played this move, but only after' I can't find a

way to avoid the move-down scenario! For example: After 11.Rh3 , Black can play , Black can play Craig Pritchett: '. Here, that move would transpose back into Anand-Shirov after' Finkel,A: '(ChessPublishing) Black can play' b6! 0.15/21 to reach a suggested line from Anand-Shirov a move up. Finkel,A: 'and be at least a tempo up in this line- no messing about with the queen! The same applies after' *(11...Qb6!? -0.07/21 11...b5 -0.45 12.b3 Qc7 13.Neg1 .;* but Black may be able to improve by playing either *11...Qc7;* or *11...a4* , when Black ought to be fine*;* Black should try *11...a4∓ -0.51/21)*]
[Also, 11.b3 -0.73/20 11.a4 -0.26 Finkel,A: 'ChessPublishing' Qc7 *(11...b6* -0.16/19 11...b5 -0.74 looks good as well Finkel,A: 'intending Ba6. Alternatively if he wished Black could answer either move with 11... b5!? with what I believe is a superior version of a queenside advance to 7... b5 as played a couple of times. Naturally this doesn't appeal to Macieja, but he comes up with something much worse- he borrows Anand's idea of Neg1 but at a bad moment. Anand only took the liberty of this lazy looking move when Black had already played his queen back to c7. So Ivanchuk decides to revert to the Qb6 plan as White has left d4 underdefended.'*)* 12.Be3 -0.79/20 *(12.h5∓* -0.42/19 might be stronger.*)* 12...b6 -0.31/22 *(12...b5!∓* -0.79/20 *)* 13.Neg1 -0.94/20 *(13.h5∓* -0.31/22 *)* 13...Ba6 0.13/19 *(* Black should play *13...Ndxe5∓* -0.94/20 aiming for ... Ng4. *14.dxe5 fxe5)* 14.Bxa6= Rxa6 15.Ne2 cxd4 16.cxd4 b5 17.0-0 a4 leaves White stuck with a bad bishop and no semblance of a kingside attack, while Black exerts his ambitions on the queenside, F.Volkmann-T.Luther, Austria 2008. Still, both alternatives look better than White's choice in the game.]
[White should certainly avoid 11.Ng3? , which invites the strong exchange sacrifice
A) 11...b6 0.92/20 11...Qb6 -0.53 12.Bd3 0.56/21 *(12.Bb5±* 0.92/20 *Na7 13.Bd3)* 12...Ba6 1.05/24 *(12...Qe8±* 0.56/21 *)* 13.Bxh7+ Kxh7 14.Ng5+ Kg8 15.Nxe6 Qe8 16.Qg4 Wards off Qg6 Qf7!∓ Berkvens,J-Hummel,E/Hoogeveen 2000/CBM 78;
B) 11...Qb6 12.Bd3 cxd4 13.Ng5 h6 14.Nxe6 Rf7 15.Bg6 Ndxe5 16.Bxf7+ Kxf7 17.Nxd4 Bg4 18.Nf3 Bc5 19.fxe5 Bf2+ 20.Kf1 Bxg3 21.Qe2 Nxe5 22.Be3 Qe6 #2 Classical Nce2-6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 with 9.h4;
C) 11...cxd4 12.cxd4 Qb6 13.Bd3 fxe5
C1) or if 14.Bxh7+? -1.48/22 14.dxe5 -0.55 Kxh7 15.Ng5+ Kg8 16.Nxe6? -4.25/20 *(16.Qh5∓* -1.36/21 *Nf6 17.Qg6 Bb4+ 18.axb4)* 16...Nxd4;
C2) 14.dxe5∓ -0.61/20 Nc5 15.Bc2;
C3) 14.fxe5 -1.43/21 14...Rxf3 -0.34/21 and his centre collapses. *(14...Nxd4!∓* -1.43/21 *15.Nxd4 Nxe5)*]
[11.a4= -0.12/21 is superior.]
11...cxd4 Craig Pritchett: '. To those who might raise eyebrows at a manoeuvre that transfers White's queen's knight from b1 to its colleague's starting

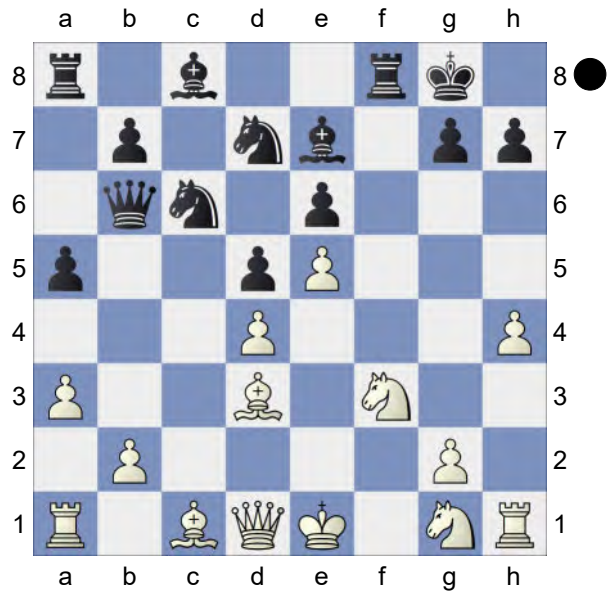
square (g1) in the first eleven moves of the game, you are right to ponder. At least Anand took a more decent 13 moves to perform the same feat against Shirov. But this is complex 21st century chess, with a large nod, never forget, to a certain Mr Steinitz. Margins are tight. Ivanchuk's clever handling of his queen may simply put more strain on the Anand "plan" than Shirov managed to achieve.' **12.cxd4 Qb6!** A novelty at the time, displaying Ivanchuk's remarkable understanding of the position. QUESTION: Should this move be give an "?!" since Ivanchuk reverts to the Anand-Shirov game? ANSWER: On the contrary, the move is an exclam for such flexibility of mind. This isn't the same position as Anand-Shirov, mainly due to White's premature Neg1. The trouble is not only is d4 weak, but Black threatens an accelerated version of Shirov's ...Nxe5-sac. Just watch. A novelty at the time, displaying Ivanchuk's remarkable understanding of the position. QUESTION: Should this move be give an "?!" since Ivanchuk reverts to the Anand-Shirov game? ANSWER: On the contrary, the move is an exclam for such flexibility of mind. This isn't the same position as Anand-Shirov, mainly due to White's premature Neg1. The trouble is not only is d4 weak, but Black threatens an accelerated version of Shirov's ...Nxe5-sac. Just watch. Craig Pritchett: 'Black finally commits his queen to what is now clearly its best square. From b6, the queen adds power to potential exchange sacrifices on f3 and potential knight sacrifices on e5. If Black can clear the a7-g1 diagonal, the queen will radiate tremendous power all the way through White's centre to the g1-square.' A novelty at the time, displaying Ivanchuk's remarkable understanding of the position. --- QUESTION: Should this move be give an "?!" since Ivanchuk reverts to the Anand-Shirov game? --- ANSWER: On the contrary, the move is an exclam for such flexibility of mind. This isn't the same position as Anand-Shirov, mainly due to White's premature Neg1. The trouble is not only is d4 weak, but Black threatens an accelerated version of Shirov's ...Nxe5-sac. Just watch. **13.Bd3** -1.38/22 This move allows Black his intention but I don't know what else to suggest. This move allows Black his intention but I don't know what else to suggest. Craig Pritchett: '?!' '?!' Craig Pritchett: 'White may already be in trouble. His 13th move invites a dangerous knight sacrifice on e5;' Finkel,A: 'ChessPublishing: 'This leads to destruction, but how else does White successfully develop?'' Finkel,A: 'Permitting black to sacrifice on e5 which leads to extremly unclear position.'

[whereas allowing the exchange sacrifice after 13.Nh3? -1.14/20 13.Ne2 -0.19 Finkel,A: '!?' fxe5 14.fxe5 -2.42/21 *(14.dxe5∓* -1.45/23 was the only chance. *Nc5 15.Bd3)* 14...Rxf3! is most certainly worse.]

[White might again try 13.Rh3? -1.71/22 13.h5 -0.16 , but this runs into the same knight sacrifice as in the game: after fxe5 14.fxe5 Ndxe5 15.dxe5 Nxe5 , and if, say, 16.Qd4 -3.14/21 *(16.Nxe5??* -#1/99 16.Be2 -1.63 allows mate on f2*; 16.Be2* -1.94/21 was called for.*)* 16...Nxf3+-+ 17.Nxf3 Bc5 18.Qd2 Bd7 Black obtains good compensation

from the greater activity of his pieces, powerful centre pawns and attacking chances.]
[13.h5= -0.18/24 remains equal.]

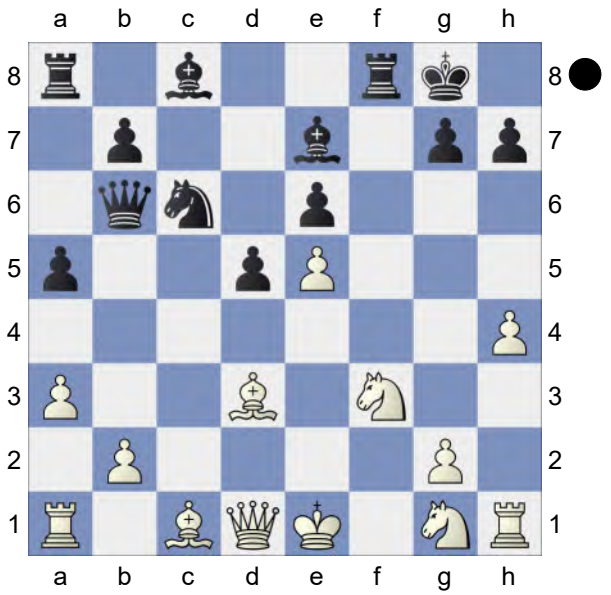
13...fxe5∓ 14.fxe5



Ndxe5! -0.63/18 Thematic and powerful. Ivanchuk gets Shirov's sac but a greatly superior version on steroids. Thematic and powerful. Ivanchuk gets Shirov's sac but a greatly superior version on steroids. Craig Pritchett: 'Black has no real choice but to sacrifice. For his knight, Ivanchuk destroys White's centre, strands his king in the middle, and obtains potentially very dangerous centre pawns, backed up by very active bishops and rooks and a powerful queen. Such play is entirely thematic in this type of position and is certainly not unpromising in this precise setting. White's spread-eagled forces, particularly those in the corners, make a sorry impression and he has numerous weak points.' Finkel,A: '!?' Finkel,A: ''!' ChessPublishing. ChessPublishing: 'A well known sacrifical theme under favourable circumstances.'' Neil McDonald: 'A well known sacrificial theme under favourable circumstances.'

15.dxe5∓

[15.Nxe5? Nxe5 *(15...Nxd4? 16.Qh5+-)* 16.Bc2 Ng6-+]



15...Nxe5! 16.Bc2 Craig Pritchett: '!?' '!?' Finkel,A: 'ChessPublishing: 'Naturally if''

[Black stands better in any case: Houdini suggests Black stands better in any case: Houdini suggests 16.Nh3 -1.71/20 16.Bc2 -0.48 Nxf3+ 17.gxf3 e5! 18.Ng5 Bxg5! 19.hxg5 -3.05/19 *(19.Bxh7+∓ -1.55/23 Kxh7 20.Bxg5)* 19...e4!-+ 20.Be2 exf3 which doesn't inspire confidence. Black looks better since his attacking chances clearly outweigh White's extra piece.]
[Of course not 16.Nxe5?? since Finkel,A: 'ChessPublishing' Qf2# isn't much of a consideration.]
[Black has at least a draw in hand after 16.Bxh7+ Kxh7 17.Qc2+ Kg8! 18.Nxe5 Bxh4+! 19.Kd2 Qd4+ , and if 20.Nd3 Strongly threatening Nf3. *(*or *20.Qd3?! Qxe5 21.Nf3* Prevents Qg5+. *Rxf3* , followed by ... Bd7! with good chances *)*

A) As a draw would have won the match, Ivanchuk may have taken it, but Black might also play for more without any risk after, say, 20...Qg4? -1.21/23 20...Qe4 -3.10 , and if 21.Ne2 -2.02/21 *(21.Qd1∓ -1.21/23 Qxg2+ 22.Ne2)* 21...Bd7 with excellent attacking chances.;

B) 20...Bg5+ etc. 21.Ke1 Bh4+⩲]

[Black also stands well after 16.Be2 -1.09/22 16.Bb1 -0.66 Ng4 17.Nh3 -1.30/23 Inhibits Nf2. *(⌓17.Qd4 -0.76/23 Qxd4 18.Nxd4)* 17...Bc5 , followed by ...Bd7 *(17...Bd6⩱ 0.00/21* 17...Bd7 -1.14 *)*]

[or 16.Bb1 Bd7 -0.03/18 *(16...Ng4∓ -0.66/19 17.Qd4 Qxd4 18.Nxd4 Bc5)* 17.Qc2 Ng6 18.h5? -3.11/21 *(18.Qe2∓* -1.42/20 is a better defense. *Bb5 19.Bd3)* 18...Rac8 (Razuvaev).]

[16.Bb1 Ng4]

16...Bd7 The deeper we analyse, the more numerous the contradictions we discover in White's position. For the piece Black gets: 1. Two central pawns. 2. Punctures on g4, g3, f2, and e3. 3. Open c- and f-files for his rooks. 4. A massive developmental lead. 5. White's king stuck in the centre. 6. Numbers one through five mean Black also receives an endless attack for a tiny investment. The deeper we analyse, the more numerous the contradictions we discover in White's position. For the piece Black gets: 1. Two central pawns. --- 2. Punctures on g4, g3, f2, and e3. --- 3. Open c- and f-files for his rooks. --- 4. A massive developmental lead. --- 5. White's king stuck in the centre. --- 6. Numbers one through five mean Black also receives an endless attack for a tiny investment. Finkel,A: 'ChessPublishing: 'With two pawns, a big lead in development and the white king as a target."

[Note that 16...Ng4?! is met with 17.Qd4 with a double attack on the b6-queen and g4-knight. Swapping queens isn't in Black's best interest here.]

17.Qe2 -1.99/22 Craig Pritchett: 'With this move Macieja manages to find a continuation that reduces Black's material compensation for his sacrificed knight to one pawn.'

[Black retains two pawns, with no diminution in his positional pressure after 17.Bg5!? -1.96/19 17.Qd4 -0.31 Bc5! , and if say 18.Qe2 -2.54/22 Inhibits Bf2+. *(18.Qd2* -1.81/21 was necessary. *Qxb2 19.Rb1 Qxa3 20.Qe2)* 18...Ng4 19.Nh3? -4.14/19 Against Bf2+ *(19.0-0-0* -2.05/20 keeps fighting. *Bb5 20.Qe1)* 19...Bb5!-+ 20.Qd2 Rac8 , when White's parlous king must remain stuck in the centre, or if Finkel, A: '⩲' 21.0-0-0? Be3 22.Bxe3 Nxe3 and wins.]

[17.Nxe5? Qf2#]

[17.Qd4∓ -0.40/22 Qxd4 18.Nxd4]

17...Rac8! -0.78/19 EXERCISE (critical decision): No time for White to brood over past folly. His already difficult position impels zero leeway for error. His choices: a) Accept the gift with 18 Nxe5. b) Decline and continue developing with 18 Be3. c) First toss in 18 Bxh7+ Kxh7 and then follow with 19 Qxe5. Which one would you play? EXERCISE (critical decision): No time for White to brood over past folly. His already difficult position impels zero leeway for error. His choices: a) Accept the gift with 18 Nxe5. b) Decline and

continue developing with 18 Be3. c) First toss in 18 Bxh7+ Kxh7 and then follow with 19 Qxe5. Which one would you play? Craig Pritchett: '. If Macieja had hoped (he probably didn't) that Black might now have to move his knight away from e5, he would get a shock.' EXERCISE (critical decision): No time for White to brood over past folly. His already difficult position impels zero leeway for error. His choices: a) Accept the gift with 18 Nxe5. --- b) Decline and continue developing with 18 Be3. --- c) First toss in 18 Bxh7+ Kxh7 and then follow with 19 Qxe5. --- Which one would you play? Finkel,A: "!' ChessPublishing. ChessPublishing: 'I like the way Black just ignores the threat to e5 and brings another piece into the attack."

[Ivanchuk's move looks clearer than allowing White complications with 17...Ng4 And now ...Bb5 would win. 18.Ng5 -2.35/19 . *(18.Bg5* -1.78/20 was worth a try. *Bb5 19.Qd2)*]

[17...Ng4-+ -1.99/22 Threatens to win with ...Bb5. 18.Nh3 Rac8]

18.Bxh7+? -3.47/19 A move which fails to avert the coming peril. This sharp retort was better left unsaid. Macieja gets boggled with the overwhelming defensive task ahead of him. A move which fails to avert the coming peril. This sharp retort was better left unsaid. Macieja gets boggled with the overwhelming defensive task ahead of him. Craig Pritchett: '!?' '!?' Finkel,A: 'ChessPublishing: 'If'' Finkel,A: 'This move appears to be the decisive mistake, while after logical 18. ♘:e5 I don't see how black gets sufficient compensation for two sacrificed knights:'

[If White continues to accept all sacs with Craig Pritchett: 'Sadly for White,' 18.Nxe5?! -3.52/24 18.Be3 -0.98 , he runs into Finkel,A: '!' Craig Pritchett: '?' Craig Pritchett: 'loses abruptly to the stunning'

A) 18...Rxc2! -0.96/18 18...Bxh4+ -3.66

A1) another piece of fun occurs after 19.Qe3? -14.08/17 19.Qxc2 -1.26 Bc5? -2.58/19 *(19...Rxc1+* -14.08/17 *20.Rxc1 Qxe3+ 21.Ne2 Rf2 22.Rc2 Bb5 23.Rc8+ Bf8 24.Rxf8+ Kxf8 25.Nd7+ Bxd7 26.Kd1 Qxe2+ 27.Kc1 Qc2#)*

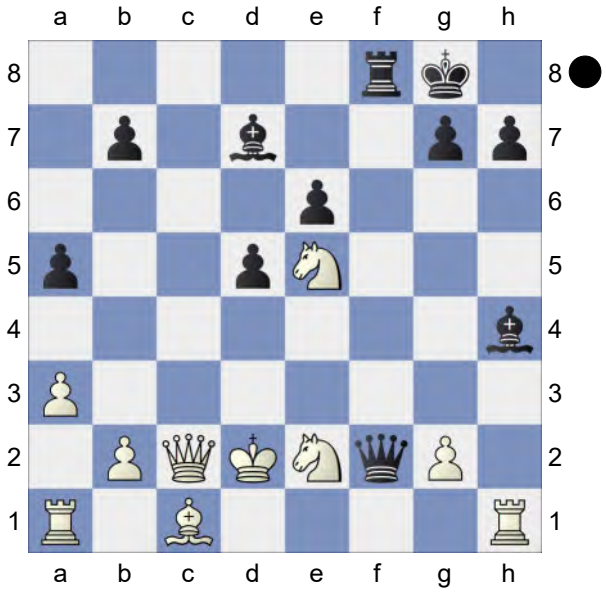
A1a) or if 20.Nxd7 Bxe3 -1.26/18 *(20...Qa6!-+* -2.82/25 and Black stays clearly on top. *21.Nxf8 Bxe3 22.Bxe3 Rxg2)* 21.Nxb6∓ Bxc1 22.Kd1? -3.17/23 *(22.Nd7∓* -1.02/20 *Rf7 23.Ne5 Bxb2 24.Nxf7 Bxa1 25.Kd1 Rxg2 26.Ng5)* 22...Rxg2-+ 23.Ne2 Bxb2? -0.56/20 *(23...Be3-+* -3.20/27 *24.Nd7 Rf7)* 24.Ra2∓ Bd4 with a winning advantage;

A1b) 20.Nxd7 -2.58/19 Qa6 21.Nxf8 Bxe3 22.Bxe3;

A1c) 20.Qd3? -16.84/19 20...Rxc1+ -6.26/18 *(⌓20...Bb5* -16.84/19 *21.Qf3 Rxf3 22.Ngxf3 Bf2+ 23.Kd1 Ba4 24.b3 Qxb3 25.Bg5 Rb2+ 26.Kc1 Qc3#)* 21.Rxc1-+ Qxb2 , and if 22.Qc3 Rf1+ and mates next move;

A2) 19.Qxc2 Bxh4+! and White will either be mated or suffer ruinous material loss. One delightful mating finish goes 20.Kd2? -7.35/29 *(* or if

20.Rxh4?? -5.34/17 20.g3 -1.31 *Qxg1+ 21.Kd2 Rf2+ 22.Kd3* Be3 is the strong threat. *Rxc2 23.Kxc2 Qf2+ 24.Bd2 Qxh4 25.Nxd7 Qa4+* and wins; *20.g3∓* -1.30/18 *Bxg3+ 21.Kd2 Qd4+ 22.Nd3)* 20...Qf2+!-+ 21.Ne2 *(if 21.Kd1 Qe1#;* or *21.Kd3* Hoping for Qxf2. *Bb5+* and wins *)*



21...Bg5+! 22.Kd1 Qf1+! 23.Rxf1 Rxf1# .;

B) 18...Bb5

B1) 19.Bd3 Bxh4+! 20.Rxh4 Qxg1+ 21.Kd2 Rf2! 22.Bxh7+? -4.83/20 *(22.Bxb5∓* -0.45/21 *Qxg2 23.Rg4)* 22...Kf8∞;

B2) 19.Bd3!? Bxh4+ 20.Kd2 *(20.Rxh4 Qxg1+ 21.Kd2 Rf2=* Pin *)* 20...Bg5+ 21.Kd1= *(21.Ke1 Bh4+ 22.Kd2 Bg5+ 23.Ke1 Bh4+ 24.Rxh4 Qxg1+ 25.Kd2 Rf2=* Pin, Double Attack *)*;

B3) 19.Nd3;

C) 18...Bxh4+!

C1) 19.Kd2 Qd4+ 20.Bd3? -#7/16 *(20.Qd3-+* -3.53/20 *Rf2+* Skewer, Double Attack *21.Ne2 Rxe2+ 22.Kd1 Qxe5 23.Qxe2 Qxe2+* Remove Defender *24.Kxe2 Rxc2+ 25.Kd3)* 20...Ba4!→;

C2) 19.Rxh4! ChessPublishing: 'After' Neil McDonald: 'but not'

C2a) 19...Rxc2! (ChessPublishing) but not 20.Qxc2 Hopeless is *(* Neil McDonald: 'Hopeless is' *20.Qe3* -7.63/20 *20.Nef3* -4.03 *Rxc1+! 21.Qxc1 Qxg1+)* 20...Qxg1+ 21.Kd2 Rf2+ 22.Kc3 d4+ 23.Kb3 a4+ and wins.;

C2b) 19...Rxc2-+ -4.54/21 20.Nef3 Rxe2+ 21.Nxe2 e5;

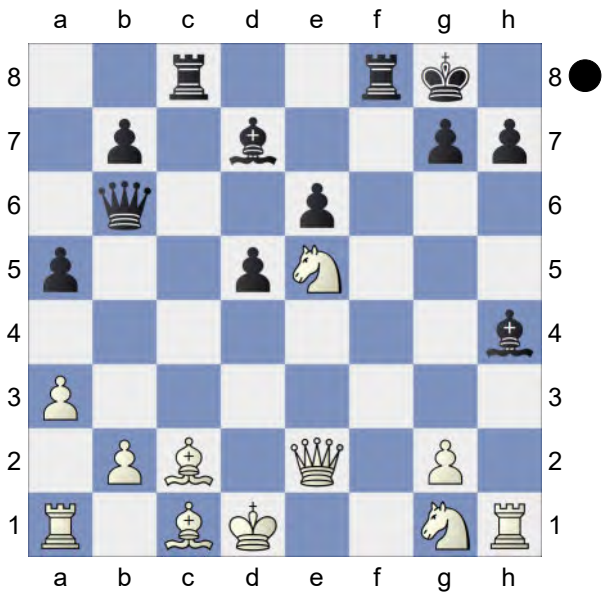
C2c) 19...Qxg1+?? 3.28/19 '?' ChessPublishing. Neil McDonald: '?' 20.Kd2+-

C2c1) 20...Rf2? 4.07/18 20...g5 2.28 21.Bxh7+ Kf8 *(21...Kh8* #1/16 21...Kf8 4.08 *22.Ng6#)* 22.Rf4+! Rxf4 23.Ng6+ Kf7 *(23...Ke8* ChessPublishing *24.Nxf4* and White has escaped.*)* 24.Nxf4+-;

C2c2) 20...Rxc2+ 21.Kxc2 Rf2 22.Bd2!+-;

C3) Neil McDonald: 'After' 19.Kd1

(Diagram)



Finkel,A: 'ChessPublishing: 'there is the beautiful move'' 19...Ba4! and if Finkel,A: '!' Finkel,A: ''!!' ChessPublishing. ' 20.Bxa4 -#6/14 *(20.Ngf3-+ -4.38/19 Rxc2 21.Qxc2 Bxc2+ 22.Kxc2)* 20...Qd4+ 21.Qd2 *(21.Nd3 Qxa4+-+* ChessPublishing: 'winning for Black.') 21...Rf1+ 22.Ke2 Rf2+ 23.Kd1 Rxc1+! mates.]

[ANSWER: White must endeavour to be less trusting and work on easing queenside congestion. The key to survival is: 18.Be3! Qxb2! 19.Ra2! *(19.Bxh7+?? -4.32/19* 19.Ra2 -0.74 *Kxh7 20.Qxb2 Nd3+* and Black regains the queen with a winning position *)* 19...Qc3+ 20.Bd2 Qc4! when Black remains better but White still hangs in there.]

[18.Nxe5? Bxh4+ 19.Kd2 *(19.Rxh4? Rxc2 20.Nef3 Rxe2+ 21.Nxe2 e5-+)* 19...Qd4+ 20.Nd3 Rf2-+]

[18.Be3∓ -0.78/19 only move. Qxb2 19.Ra2 *(19.Bxh7+? Kxh7 20.Qxb2 Nd3+ 21.Ke2 Nxb2-+)* 19...Qc3+ *(19...Qxa2 20.Bxh7+* Discovered Attack *Kxh7 21.Qxa2±)* 20.Bd2]

18...Kxh7-+ 19.Qxe5 The queen senses danger all around her, like a cat out of her normal neighbourhood, walking in an unfamiliar alley.

[Black also stands well after 19.Nxe5 Bb5 , and if 20.Qh5+? -8.99/5 *(20.Nd3* -3.04/18 *Qd4 21.Nf3 Qxd3 22.Qxd3+ Bxd3 23.Bg5)* 20...Kg8-+ 21.Ngf3 Rc2 . But note how important it is in many variations that the black queen prevents White's knight on f3 from moving due to its pressure against f2. Finkel,A: '⩲']

[19.Nxe5 Bb5 20.Nd3 *(20.Qh5+? Kg8-+)* 20...Qd4-+]

19...Bd6! The queen reads impertinence in the bishop's body language. Meanwhile, the bishop clears his throat, harrumphing in disapproval at the queen's liberties. The attack works on maximum efficiency plus minimum effort, with each attacking unit spare and functional. Target: g3. Black has only one pawn for the piece and yet still boasts a winning attack. **20.Be3** Craig Pritchett: '?' '?' Craig Pritchett: 'So far Macieja has defended well, but now he misses a winning coup on Black's next move.' Finkel,A: '?!'

[Craig Pritchett: 'White might still have hoped to put up some resistance in the positions arising after' 20.Qh5+ Kg8 21.Ne2 Against Bg3+ Rc4! leaves White curiously helpless against the threat of ...Re4 followed by ...Bb5. *(21...e5* -1.48/18 21...Rc4 -3.34 , though with his king still trapped in the centre and his pieces lacking any serious coordination, it would remain an uphill struggle to stem Black's attacking forces. *)*]

20...Qb3 Finkel,A: '!' Finkel,A: 'After this strong move white is helpless.'. Active counter play! Black is clearly winning. **21.Nd2** EXERCISE (combination alert): Ivanchuk found a beautiful combination here. Take your time on this one. For now, the solution appears enshrouded in an obscuring mist. Where is it? EXERCISE (combination alert): Ivanchuk found a beautiful combination here. Take your time on this one. For now, the solution appears enshrouded in an obscuring mist. Where is it? Craig Pritchett: 'White probably relied on this move.' EXERCISE (combination alert): Ivanchuk found a beautiful combination here. Take your time on this one. For now, the solution appears enshrouded in an obscuring mist. Where is it? Finkel,A: 'ChessPublishing: 'Buying time to save his queen while picking up White's. This was a masterly display by Ivanchuk on his way to the World Championship final. "

[Equally hopeless were: Equally hopeless were: Craig Pritchett: 'Of course he can't play either' Neil McDonald: 'White is helpless after both' 21.Qxd6 -#6/16 21.Nd2 -4.29 Craig Pritchett: ', allowing' Qxe3+ 22.Ne2 Rc2 Craig Pritchett: 'and wins' Finkel,A: 'ChessPublishing: 'and'' 23.Ng5+ Kg8-+]

[and 21.Qd4 Finkel,A: 'ChessPublishing' Bg3+ 22.Bf2 e5 *(22...Rc4 23.Qd2 Rc2)* 23.Qd2 Rc2 .]

[while after 21.Qh5+ Kg8 White can't defend against the twin threats of ... Qxe3 and ...Bg3+. Finkel,A: '-+']

[21.Qxd6 Qxe3+ 22.Ne2 Rc2 23.Ng5+ Kh6]

ANSWER: Deflection/overload. The rook approaches the heavily guarded f1–square, almost against his will, propelled by some irresistible urge of the subconscious. **21...Rf1+!!** A devious idea forms in Ivanchuk's mind, like a bubble rising to the surface of a pond. A devious idea forms in Ivanchuk's mind, like a bubble rising to the surface of a pond. Craig Pritchett: '!' '!' Craig Pritchett: '. But what about this! With a deft little deflection sacrifice, Black wins the queen.' ANSWER: Deflection/overload. The rook approaches the heavily guarded f1-square, almost against his will, propelled by some irresistible urge of the subconscious. --- A devious idea forms in Ivanchuk's mind, like a bubble rising to the surface of a pond. Finkel,A: '-+!' Finkel,A: "!' ChessPublishing. ' Neil McDonald: '!' Finkel,A: 'Nice tactical blow leading to quick finish.'. Skewer, Decoy

[21...Bxe5 22.Nxb3 Bxb2 23.Rb1=]

22.Kxf1

[After 22.Nxf1 , the knight draws the short straw, as it is assigned the unpleasant task of defending the undefendable since Bxe5 picks up the queen.]

[22.Ke2 -#3/14 22.Kxf1 -4.50 Bb5+ forces mate in two moves.]

22...Qd3+! "In the past, you caused my heart to bleed. So now I shall be requiring some of your blood to repay the debt," Black's queen hisses in the king's ear. Black's point is: White's queen hangs, while his doesn't.

[22...Bxe5? loses. 23.Nxb3 Bxb2 24.Ra2+-]

23.Kf2 As a kid, your writer was not the best of citizens in the school environment. As a result, I was hauled

into the dreaded principal's office on many an occasion. One sign of the principal's power was there were no chairs behind his large, intimidating desk. So the penitent was forced to stand, while the red-faced principal lectured upon your unfortunate writer's woeful standards of behaviour. QUESTION: Does this story have a point? ANSWER: I'm getting to it! Black's queen is the principal, while White's king is your unfortunate writer, standing behind his desk. As a kid, your writer was not the best of citizens in the school environment. As a result, I was hauled into the dreaded principal's office on many an occasion. One sign of the principal's power was there were no chairs behind his large, intimidating desk. So the penitent was forced to stand, while the red-faced principal lectured upon your unfortunate writer's woeful standards of behaviour. --- QUESTION: Does this story have a point? --- ANSWER: I'm getting to it! Black's queen is the principal, while White's king is your unfortunate writer, standing behind his desk. **23...Bxe5** Black is up material and continues to attack. White can resign here. A strong pair of Bishops. **24.Ngf3 Bxb2 25.Rab1 Rc2 26.Rhd1 e5 27.g3 Bg4** . That was one pin too many for White. SUMMARY: This is the line I intend to play as Black. I like the idea of holding back on ...Qb6 by playing 7...Be7. Who knows, we may be able to dupe some of our opponents into positions similar to the Anand-Shirov game but with a full move up. Just imagine what we can do with an extra tempo in such a sharp position! . That was one pin too many for White. --- SUMMARY: This is the line I intend to play as Black. I like the idea of holding back on ...Qb6 by playing 7...Be7. Who knows, we may be able to dupe some of our opponents into positions similar to the Anand-Shirov game but with a full move up. Just imagine what we can do with an extra tempo in such a sharp position! Weighted Error Value: White=0.75/Black=0.12 (very precise)
0-1

292 **C11**
□ **Baramidze,David**
■ **Prusikin,Michael**
German Ch., Koenigshofen (Game 28)
[Neil McDonald,MH]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4** The battle lines have taken shape: Black is putting typical pressure on d4, while White has achieved f2-f4 on the kingside. You may recall that in the Advance chapter we said that White should try to engineer f4-f5, to put another pawn alongside his furthest advanced pawn on e5; here he has already got in the first stage of that plan. The battle lines have taken shape: Black is putting typical pressure on d4, while White has achieved f2-f4 on the kingside. You may recall that in the Advance chapter we said that White should try to engineer f4-f5, to put another pawn alongside his furthest advanced pawn on e5; here he has already got in the first stage of that plan. The battle lines have taken shape: Black is putting typical pressure on d4, while White has achieved f2-f4 on the kingside. You may recall that in the Advance chapter we

said that White should try to engineer f4-f5, to put another pawn alongside his furthest advanced pawn on e5; here he has already got in the first stage of that plan. **7...Be7!** Black got good positions with 7...Be7 in the first half of this chapter and we're going to keep faith with it here. It strikes me as being more flexible than 7...Qb6, which is also often played. Black got good positions with 7... Be7 in the first half of this chapter and we're going to keep faith with it here. It strikes me as being more flexible than 7...Qb6, which is also often played. Black got good positions with 7...Be7 in the first half of this chapter and we're going to keep faith with it here. It strikes me as being more flexible than 7...Qb6, which is also often played. **8.Nf3 0-0 9.a3** Hoping to encroach on even more space with his pawns by advancing 10 b4. At the same time White takes away b4 from the black pieces: it may well prove important to have stopped ...Bb4, giving check, or ...Nb4 if the centre opens up. Hoping to encroach on even more space with his pawns by advancing 10 b4. At the same time White takes away b4 from the black pieces: it may well prove important to have stopped ... Bb4, giving check, or ...Nb4 if the centre opens up. Hoping to encroach on even more space with his pawns by advancing 10 b4. At the same time White takes away b4 from the black pieces: it may well prove important to have stopped ... Bb4, giving check, or ...Nb4 if the centre opens up. **9...a5!** Black prevents the aforementioned 10 b4. Black prevents the aforementioned 10 b4. Black prevents the aforementioned 10 b4. **10.g3?** -0.45/22

[We have reached a key position. Other moves are We have reached a key position. Other moves are We have reached a key position. Other moves are 10.h4 -0.24/20 10.Ng3 0. 23 , considered further below in this first scenario, and 10 Neg1 and 10 Ng3, which are examined in our second scenario section.]

[10.Ng3= 0.30/25]

Schematically speaking, 10 g3 should be a good move: an outlet is made for the bishop to go to h3, where it supports a future f4-f5 advance. Black is also apparently being deterred from playing ... f6, as e6 will become vulnerable to Bh3 and Bxe6+. NOTE: Unfortunately for White the dynamics of the position seem to indicate that Black can play ...f6 anyway, and achieve at least good practical chances. Schematically speaking, 10 g3 should be a good move: an outlet is made for the bishop to go to h3, where it supports a future f4-f5 advance. Black is also apparently being deterred from playing ...f6, as e6 will become vulnerable to Bh3 and Bxe6+. NOTE: Unfortunately for White the dynamics of the position seem to indicate that Black can play ...f6 anyway, and achieve at least good practical chances. Schematically speaking, 10 g3 should be a good move: an outlet is made for the bishop to go to h3, where it supports a future f4-f5 advance. Black is also apparently being deterred from playing ...f6, as e6 will become vulnerable to Bh3 and Bxe6+. NOTE: Unfortunately for White the dynamics of the position seem to indicate that Black can play ...f6 anyway, and achieve at least good practical chances. **10...cxd4** As Black intends to cut down the white centre, this is a good preliminary move.

As Black intends to cut down the white centre, this is a good preliminary move. As Black intends to cut down the white centre, this is a good preliminary move. **11.cxd4** The position is equal.

[11.Nexd4 Nc5 would be at least a moral victory for Black and perhaps a real one, as he can build up comfortably with moves like ...Bd7 and ...a5-a4, always keeping in mind that the ...f6 move might become attractive.]

11...f6! At first glance you might imagine that 10 g3 has strengthened the white pawns, as f4 is further bolstered. However, it is more to the point that the knight on f3 is left undefended, so that if Black plays ...fxe5 White can't recapture with the f-pawn as ...Rxf3 follows. That means that he feels obliged to recapture with the d-pawn, which is an antipositional move that weakens his grip on the centre and in particular allows the black queen to take up a fine post where she prevents White from castling. At first glance you might imagine that 10 g3 has strengthened the white pawns, as f4 is further bolstered. However, it is more to the point that the knight on f3 is left undefended, so that if Black plays ...fxe5 White can't recapture with the f-pawn as ...Rxf3 follows. That means that he feels obliged to recapture with the d-pawn, which is an antipositional move that weakens his grip on the centre and in particular allows the black queen to take up a fine post where she prevents White from castling. At first glance you might imagine that 10 g3 has strengthened the white pawns, as f4 is further bolstered. However, it is more to the point that the knight on f3 is left undefended, so that if Black plays ...fxe5 White can't recapture with the f-pawn as ...Rxf3 follows. That means that he feels obliged to recapture with the d-pawn, which is an antipositional move that weakens his grip on the centre and in particular allows the black queen to take up a fine post where she prevents White from castling. **12.Bh3**

[After 12.Bg2 -0.36/21 12.exf6 0.10 fxe5 0.49/20 White has to make an unappetising choice between White has to make an unappetising choice between White has to make an unappetising choice between *(12...a4∓ -0.36/21)*

A) 13.fxe5 Qb6! 0.90/22 stops him castling as stops him castling as stops him castling as *(13...a4± 0.50/24* is superior.*)* 14.0-0? -1.59/21 *(14.Nf4± 0.90/22* stays on course.*)* 14...Ndxe5! costs a pawn;

B) 13.fxe5± 0.49/20 Nb6 14.b3;

C) 13.dxe5 -0.66/21 , when after , when after , when after 13...Qb6∓ 14.Ned4 Nc5 -0.44/20 Black has an active game with moves like ... Bd7 and ...Ne4 to follow. NOTE: A trick of the type 14 0-0? Ndxe5! often appears when Black has played ...Qb6 in this set-up. Keep an eye out for it in your own games! Black has an active game with moves like ...Bd7 and ...Ne4 to follow. NOTE: A trick of the type 14 0-0? Ndxe5! often appears when Black has played ...Qb6 in this set-up. Keep an eye out for it in your own games! Black has an active game with moves like ...Bd7 and ...Ne4 to follow. NOTE: A trick of the type 14 0-0? Ndxe5! often appears

when Black has played ...Qb6 in this set-up. Keep an eye out for it in your own games! *(14...Nxd4∓ -0.81/22 15.Nxd4 Nb8)*]

12...fxe5! 13.dxe5

[Black also has the initiative after Black also has the initiative after Black also has the initiative after 13.Bxe6+ -1.08/19 13.dxe5 -0.16 Kh8 White must now prevent ...e4. 14.Bxd5 -1.37/23 *(White should play 14.0-0 -1.00/23)* 14...Nxd4 -0.72/19 : for example, : for example, : for example, *(⌓14...exd4 -1.37/23 15.Bxc6 bxc6 16.Nexd4 Bc5)* 15.Nexd4∓ exd4 16.Nxd4? -2.83/20 *(16.0-0!∓ -0.66/17)* 16...Nf6-+ 17.Bf3 Re8! and White is in great peril as and White is in great peril as and White is in great peril as 18.0-0 loses the knight to loses the knight to loses the knight to Bc5 .]

13...Qb6! The critical move. Black is prepared to offer the lives of both his e-pawn and d-pawn in order to strike at White before he has the chance to castle. The critical move. Black is prepared to offer the lives of both his e-pawn and d-pawn in order to strike at White before he has the chance to castle. The critical move. Black is prepared to offer the lives of both his e-pawn and d-pawn in order to strike at White before he has the chance to castle. **14.Bxe6+N** The pawns White snatches are by no means a free lunch. The disappearance of e6 means that the hitherto pitiful black bishop on c8, which had very little scope, is either going to end up exchanged for White's own beautifully mobile bishop or become a very active piece itself. Furthermore, the black rook on f8, which was more or less entombed, is going to be presented with the open d-file. Thus capturing the pawns will turn a couple of ugly ducklings into swans with very sharp beaks.

[The alternative The alternative The alternative 14.Nc3 -1.18/21 14.Ned4 -0.03 is considered after this game. Ndxe5 15.fxe5 Nxe5 16.Bg2 Bd7 17.Rf1 Nc4 18.Rb1 Bf6 19.Qd3 Rac8 20.Ng5 Bxg5 21.Bxg5 Rxf1+ 22.Bxf1 Rf8 23.Qe2 Rf5 24.Bf4 g5 25.Nxd5 exd5 26.Bb8 Rf8 Black'S Centre Busting-Nxe5 Sacrifice 2008]

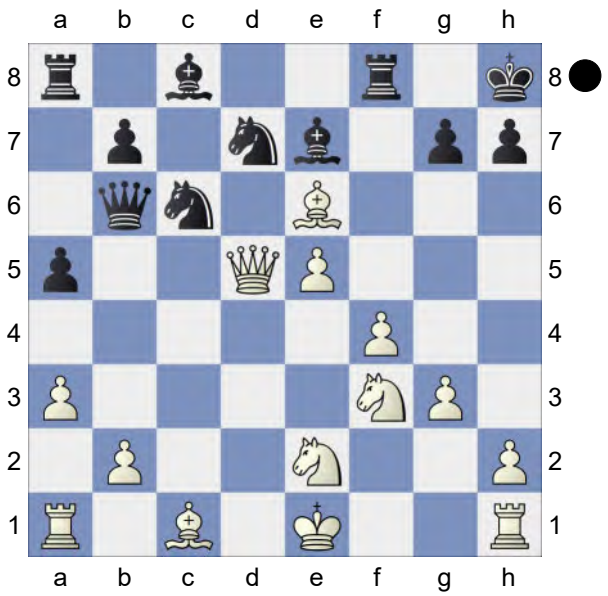
14...Kh8 15.Qxd5 -3.09/21

[After 15.Bxd7 -1.87/18 15.Bxd5 -0.37 Bxd7 Black's bishop can go to either g4 or h3 to aid the attack, Black's bishop can go to either g4 or h3 to aid the attack, Black's bishop can go to either g4 or h3 to aid the attack,]

[while after while after while after 15.Bxd5 Nc5! Repels Qb3. Strongly threatening ...Rd8. 16.Be3 Rc1 is the strong threat. Rd8 White's bishop on d5 finds itself in a highly unpleasant pin.]

[15.Bxd5∓ -0.52/20 Nc5 16.Be3]

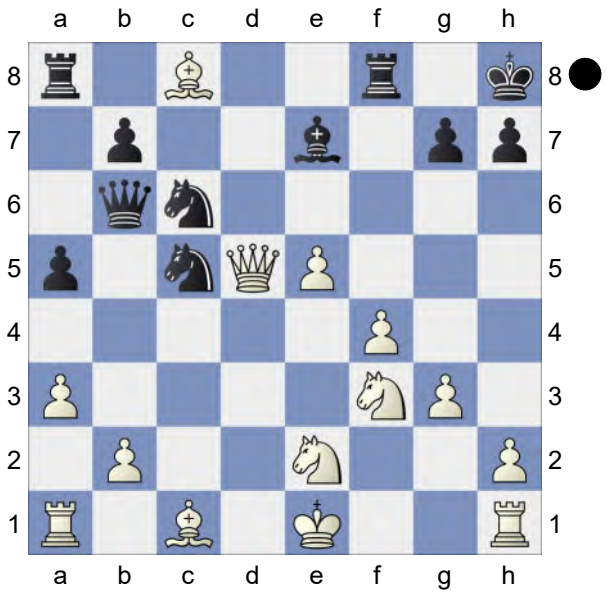
(Diagram)



15...Nc5!-+

[And not 15...Ndxe5 16.Nxe5 Nxe5 17.Bxc8 Raxc8 18.Qxe5=]

16.Bxc8



Rd8 Wards off Bd7 **17.Qxd8+**

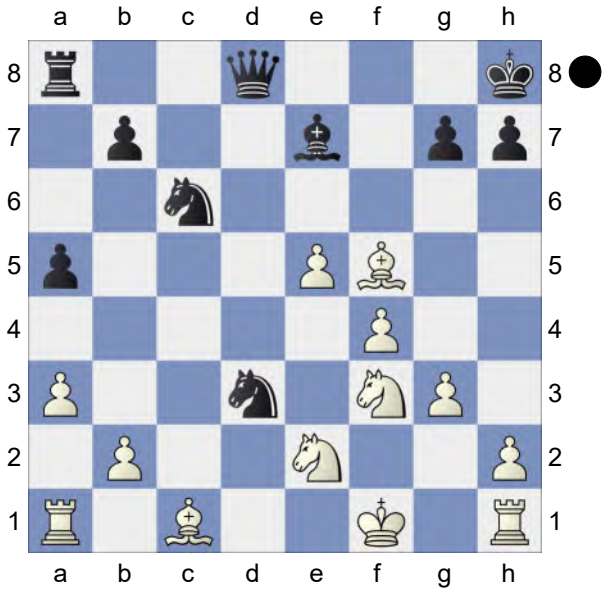
[There is no choice, as There is no choice, as There is no choice, as 17.Qc4? -4.80/23 17.Qxd8+ -2.57 Nd3+ gives White the choice between losing the queen after gives White the choice between losing the queen after gives White the choice between losing the queen after 18.Kd1 -8.64/17 (or the king with or the king with or the king with *18.Kf1* -#1/17 18.Qxd3 -4.51 *Qf2#;* ⌓*18.Qxd3* -4.35/18 *Rxd3 19.Bg4*) 18...Nxb2+ .]

[Avoid the trap 17.Bd7? Rxd7-+]

17...Qxd8

[Much less strong is 17...Bxd8 18.Bf5-+]

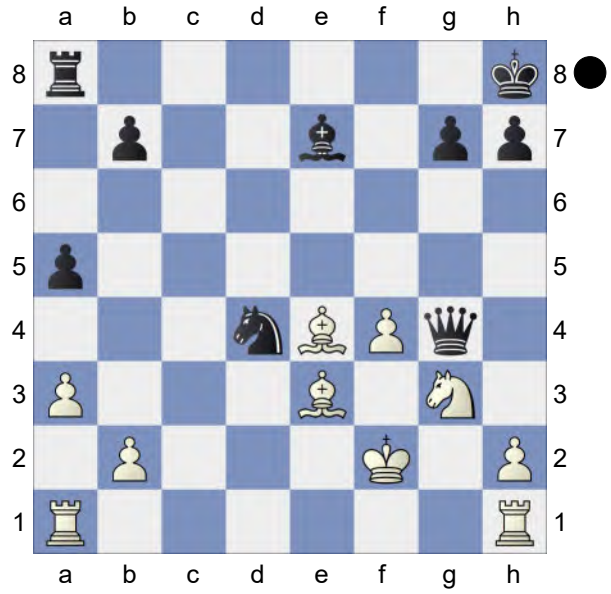
18.Bf5 Nd3+ 19.Kf1



The material count is by no means hopeless for White. Indeed, given time he might consolidate with 20 Kg2, when he threatens to win the knight on d3 with 21 Rd1, but Black's reply gives him no such breathing space. The material count is by no means hopeless for White. Indeed, given time he might consolidate with 20 Kg2, when he threatens to win the knight on d3 with 21 Rd1, but Black's reply gives him no such breathing space. The material count is by no means hopeless for White. Indeed, given time he might consolidate with 20 Kg2, when he threatens to win the knight on d3 with 21 Rd1, but Black's reply gives him no such breathing space.

19...Ndxe5! Winning a key pawn.

Winning a key pawn. Winning a key pawn. **20.Kg2**
[20.fxe5 aiming for Nc3. Qd1+ 21.Ne1 (else either h1 or e2 drops) Rf8 22.g4 g6 and 23...gxf5 gives Black an overwhelming attack.]
In the remainder of the game White's position was gradually worn down: In the remainder of the game White's position was gradually worn down: In the remainder of the game White's position was gradually worn down: **20...Nxf3 21.Kxf3 Qd5+ 22.Be4 Qh5+ 23.g4 Qh3+ 24.Ng3 Nd4+ 25.Kf2 Qxg4** Hoping for ...Bh4. **26.Be3**



Bh4! 27.Rae1 Prevents Qe2+.
[27.Bxd4 Qxf4+]
27...Nf5 Black is clearly winning. **28.Bxf5 Qxf5 29.Re2 Qh3 30.Rg1 Qxh2+ 31.Kf3 Qh3 32.Bf2 h5** ...Qg4+ would now be deadly. **33.Re5 Qg4+ 34.Kg2 Bxg3 35.Bxg3** -9.03/21
[⌓35.Rg5 -4.82/19 Bxf2+ Pin *(35...Bxf4+ 36.Rxg4 hxg4 37.Rh1+ Kg8 38.Rh4∓; 35...Qxf4? 36.Rxh5+ Kg8 37.Bxg3-+)* 36.Rxg4 Bxg1 37.Rh4]
35...h4 Pin **36.Rg5 Qe2+ 37.Bf2 Rc8** And now ...Rc2 would win. **38.Re1 Qxb2 39.Kg1 Rc1** White got outplayed after the opening. Weighted Error Value: White=0.57/Black=0.17 (very precise)
0-1

293 **C11**
□ **Black,Stuart**
■ **Nxe5 Sacrifice**
[Neil McDonald,MH]

Returning to the position after C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 Be7 8.Nf3 0-0 9.a3 a5 10.g3** -0.42/20
[Another rather dubious move is 10.h4?! -0.18/21 10.Ng3 0.35 . Once again Black can prepare a forceful counter-action in the centre with f6! , *(* which seems more accurate than the preliminary *10...cxd4* 0.16/20 10...f6 -0.37 as that gives White the chance to bail out with *11.Nexd4* before we get the chance to play ...b6 and ...Ba6*)* . Following 11.Rh3 b6! 0.16/21 and 12...Ba6 Black activates his light-squared bishop with good counterplay. He is actually a tempo up on well-known theory where he goes 7...Qb6 and then has to move his queen again to clear the way for ...b6 and ...Ba6. *(11...a4∓* -0.51/22 *)*]
[After 10.h4 f6 White has also tried. Repels Ng5 11.Neg1? , a slow move that got crushed in the style of the Bologan-Gurevich game, below: cxd4 12.cxd4 Qb6 -0.09/21 *(12...a4!∓* -0.51/20 *)* 13.Bd3 -1.39/23 *(13.Ne2=* -0.09/21 *)* 13...fxe5∓ 14.fxe5 Ndxe5! (a familiar sacrifice to gain two mobile

centre pawns and open lines against the white king which is stranded in the centre) 15.dxe5 Nxe5 16.Bc2 Bd7 ...Bb5! would now be deadly. 17.Qe2 -1.62/22 *(17.Qd4∓ -0.55/20 Qxd4 18.Nxd4)* 17...Rac8 -0.69/20 and the black pieces closed in for the kill. If now *(17...Ng4-+ -1.62/22* aiming for ...Bb5. *18.Nh3 Rac8)*

A) in the game White preferred 18.Bxh7+? -3.15/19 18.Be3 -0.59 but to no avail: Kxh7 19.Qxe5 Bd6 20.Be3 Qb3! 21.Nd2 *(or 21.Qxd6 -8.28/24 21.Nd2 -4.62 Qxe3+ 22.Ne2 Rc2)* 21...Rf1+! (Black sets up a check to move his own queen to safety before pocketing his opponent's queen) 22.Kxf1 Qd3+ 23.Kf2 Bxe5 24.Ngf3 Bxb2 25.Rab1 Rc2 26.Rhd1 e5 27.g3 Bg4 and 0-1 in B.Macieja-V.Ivanchuk, Moscow 2001 ;

B) 18.Be3!∓ -0.69/20 Qxb2 19.Ra2 Qc3+ 20.Bd2;

C) 18.Nxe5?? -3.60/23 there follows 18...Bxh4+!-+ with a gruesome choice for White:

C1) or 19.Rxh4 Rxc2! 20.Qxc2 -6.01/17 *(⌓20.Ngf3 -4.12/21 Rxe2+ 21.Kxe2 Bb5+ 22.Ke1)* 20...Qxg1+-+ 21.Kd2 Rf2+ 22.Kc3 d4+ 23.Kb3 a4+ 24.Ka2 Rxc2 and wins;

C2) 19.Kd1 Ba4!! (a brilliant move that deflects White's bishop to a4 where it can be captured with check) 20.Bxa4 -#6/14 *(20.Ngf3-+ -4.00/20 Rxc2 21.Qxc2 Bxc2+ 22.Kxc2)* 20...Qd4+ 21.Nd3 Qxa4+ 22.Kd2 Rc2+ and Black soon mates. NOTE: It is beyond the ability of most Grandmasters to calculate their way through all these complications. I suspect that Ivanchuk trusted in his intuition when he made the initial piece sacrifice. And why not? It would have been strange indeed if White's scattered forces had been able to successfully defend their king. By showing you this game and Gurevich's effort below, I hope I've helped you to develop a similar intuitive feel for the ...Nxe5 sacrifice.]

[Better is 10.Ng3= 0.22/24]

10...cxd4 11.cxd4 The position is equal. **11...f6** 0.06/22

[11...b5∓ -0.32/21]

12.Bh3 fxe5! 13.dxe5

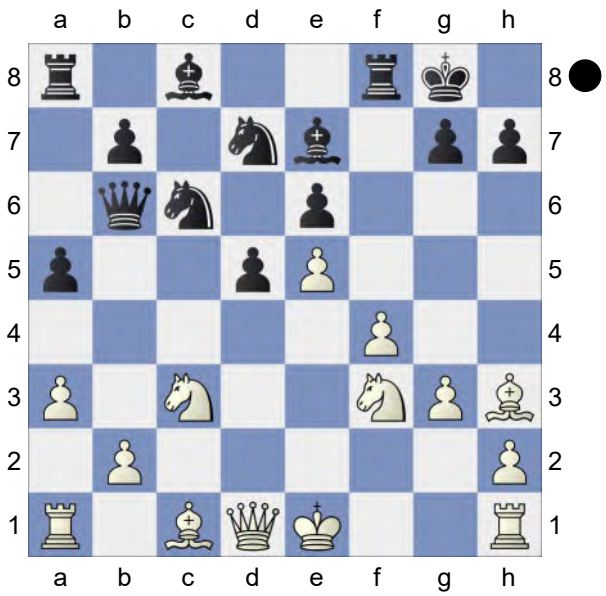
[13.Bxe6+ Kh8 14.dxe5 Ndxe5-+]

13...Qb6 in Baramidze-Prusikin above, here's what might happen if White turns down the pawn offer with **14.Nc3N** -1.43/20

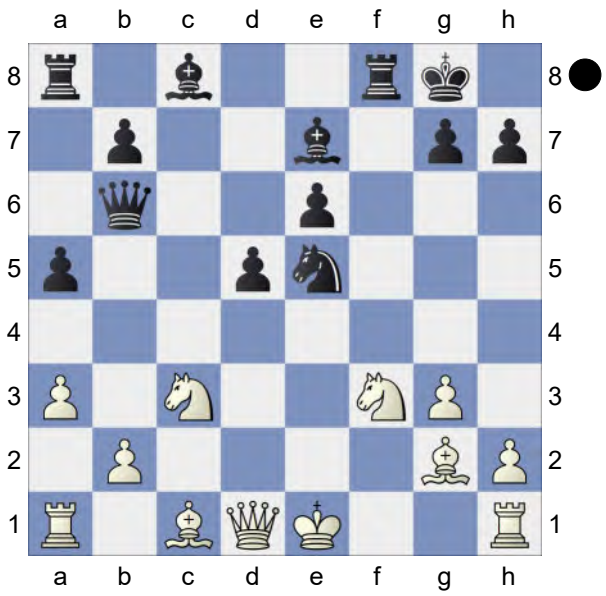
[14.Ned4= -0.16/21]

[14.Bxe6+ Kh8 15.Qxd5 Nc5 16.Bxc8 Rd8 17.Qxd8+ Qxd8 18.Bf5 Nd3+ 19.Kf1 Ndxe5 20.Kg2 Nxf3 21.Kxf3 Qd5+ 22.Be4 Qh5+ 23.g4 Qh3+ 24.Ng3 Nd4+ 25.Kf2 Qxg4 26.Be3 Bh4 27.Rae1 Nf5 28.Bxf5 Qxf5 0-1 3.♘d2 g6 4.♘gf3 ♗g7 5.î (2561)-Bruce,R (2571) chess.com (ol-rapid) 147/43 2020 29.Re2 Qh3 30.Rg1 Qxh2+ 31.Kf3 Qh3 32.Bf2 h5 33.Re5 Qg4+ 34.Kg2 Bxg3 35.Bxg3 h4 36.Rg5 Qe2+ 37.Bf2 Rc8 38.Re1 Qxb2 39.Kg1 Rc1 0-1 3.Nd2 g6 4.Ngf3 Bg7 5.Be2 e5 (2561)-Bruce,R (2571) chess.com (ol-rapid) 147/43 2020]

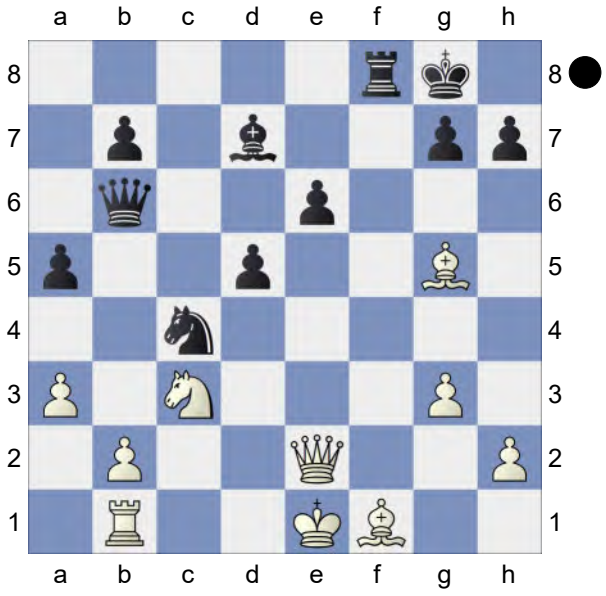
(Diagram)



: **14...Ndxe5!** 0.51/21 **15.fxe5±**
[15.Nxe5 Nxe5 16.Na4 Qa7∓]
15...Nxe5 and now White must avoid 16 Nxe5? Qf2 mate. Somewhat better is **16.Bg2** -1.12/25
[16.Rf1!± 0.45/23 is the one way to stay ahead. Nxf3+ 17.Rxf3]



when there is no immediate win for Black, but the white king is trapped in the centre. Moreover, despite his extra piece White is too disorganized to fight off the attack from the active black pieces, which can if necessary be boosted by the advance of the central pawns. In the following game it didn't even come to that: **16...Bd7!** Threatens to win with ...Rxf3! Black has strong compensation. **17.Rf1 Nc4**
[17...Nxf3+ simplifies 18.Bxf3 d4 19.Ne4 Bc6]
18.Rb1 -1.83/19
[18.Bh3∓ -0.93/19]
18...Bf6 -0.93/19
[18...Be8-+ -1.83/19 Hoping for ...Bf6. 19.Ra1 Bh5 *(19...Nxb2 20.Qe2±)*]
19.Qd3∓ Rac8 -0.24/19
[Black should try 19...a4∓ -0.82/22 And now ...Be8 would win. 20.Ng5 Bxg5 21.Bxg5 Kh8]
20.Ng5 Bxg5 21.Bxg5 Rxf1+ 0.28/20
[21...a4!∓ -0.46/20]
22.Bxf1= This pair of bishops is nice.
[22.Kxf1? is the wrong capture. Rf8+ 23.Bf4 Ne3+ *(23...Nxb2? 24.Qe2+-)* 24.Kf2 Ng4+ 25.Ke2 Qf2+ *(25...Nxh2 26.Rh1±)* 26.Kd1 Qxg2-+]
22...Rf8! 23.Qe2 -2.19/21
[23.Bf4= 0.27/22]



Against Ne5. White does not recover from this. **23...Rf5!**↑ Black is in control. **24.Bf4** Prevents Re5. **24...g5! 25.Nxd5** -5.79/23

[Desperation, as 25.Bc1? -5.44/21 25.Rd1 -1.66 Re5 wins the queen,]

[while after 25.Bb8 -3.06/20 25.Bh3 -1.98 Rf8! Black can pocket the bishop as in the game]

[25.Bh3 -2.00/23 is a better chance. Qg1+ *(25...gxf4 26.Bxf5 Qg1+ 27.Qf1=)* 26.Qf1 Qxf1+ 27.Kxf1]

25...exd5 26.Bb8 Rf8 and 0-1 was the course of V.Bologan-M.Gurevich, Cap d'Agde 2002. Weighted Error Value: White=1.02/Black=0.32

0-1

294 **C11**

□ **Baramidze,David**

■ **Bartel,M..**

10: German League 2012

[Cyrus Lakdawala,MH]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4** QUESTION: Didn't you cover this in Chapter One? ANSWER: We can also reach the Shirov-Anand Line with this move order. QUESTION: Didn't you cover this in Chapter One? ANSWER: We can also reach the Shirov-Anand Line with this move order. **5...c5 6.Nce2 Nc6**

[QUESTION: Shouldn't we punish White for his failure to play c3 by playing 6...cxd4 ? ANSWER: It's playable but most GMs just stick to 6...Nc6, the move Bartel played in the game. After 6...cxd4, White retains absolute control over d4 after ? ANSWER: It's playable but most GMs just stick to 6...Nc6, the move Bartel played in the game. After 6...cxd4, White retains absolute control over d4 after 7.Nxd4 Nc6 . Even though now Black threatens ...Ndxe5! followed by ...Qh4, every opponent in the universe is going to respond with White's next move, even if he or she doesn't spot the trap. After the natural . Even though now Black threatens ...Ndxe5! followed by ...Qh4, every opponent in the universe is going to respond with White's next move, even if he or she doesn't spot the trap. After the natural 8.Ngf3 Nc5 9.Be3 Bd7 10.c3 Be7 11.Nb3 b6! 12.Be2 Nxb3 13.axb3 Bc5 14.Qd2 a5 15.0-0 0-0 16.Bd3 Qe7 17.Kh1 f6 18.exf6 gxf6!? 19.Rae1 , White has a dynamic position where his attacking chances get the nod over Black's central potential, C.Bauer-M.Gurevich, Belfort 2003.]

7.c3 Qb6 8.Nf3 f6 9.a3 White continues to follow his leisurely strategy, putting off development for later, with the belief that Black experiences difficulty in opening the game to exploit his developmental lead. **9...Be7**

[QUESTION: If we know White is planning to resolve central tension with b4, then why not prevent it with 9...a5 ? ANSWER: The move is playable but we actually don't mind White playing b4, since this allows us ...a5, undermining White's queenside. ? ANSWER: The move is playable but we actually don't mind White playing b4, since this allows us ...a5, undermining White's queenside. 10.g3 (White follows the game plan from the previous game in the chapter) Be7 11.Bh3 Nf8 *(11...f5* is exactly what

White wants) 12.exf6 Bxf6 occurred in A.Ivanov-A.Bykhovsky, New York 1990 when White can exert unpleasant central pressure after 13.dxc5! (to clear d4 for his pieces) Qxc5 14.Ned4 .]

10.b4 White forces our hand.

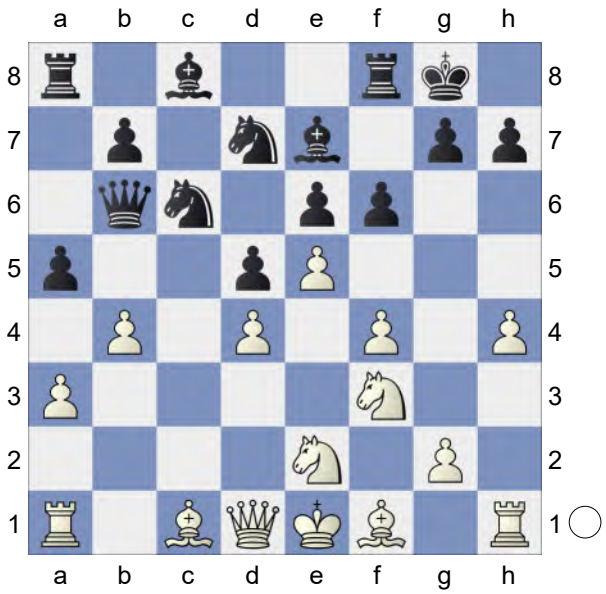
[In the next game, we will look at 10.h4 -0.03/20 10.b4 0.39 .]

10...cxd4 11.cxd4 0-0 Black's developmental lead reaches alarming proportions. **12.h4** White sets up future Ng5 sacrificial binges. However, you may have noticed that virtually all his pieces remain at home while the clumsy e2-knight gums up development.

[12.Rb1!?]

[12.Rb1!?]

12...a5!



Principle: Create confrontation when leading in development. The position is equal. **13.b5** QUESTION: Why did White hand over a pawn on a platter? ANSWER: It's a forced blockading sac to take control over b5. QUESTION: Why did White hand over a pawn on a platter? ANSWER: It's a forced blockading sac to take control over b5.

13...Qxb5 White's queenside is disgorged of a pawn but in return, he gets strong compensation. **14.Nc3 Qb6 15.Rb1** Suddenly, White's game springs to life, at the cost of a pawn. He exerts pressure down the b-file and owns the b5-hole. Repels a4. White has compensation. **15...Qd8 16.Bd3** -0.27/20

[White takes aim at h7. There is no reason for White to commit to 16.Nb5 just yet.]

[⌓16.h5 0.29/22]

16...h6! 0.88/18 A strong defensive move.

[Black cuts out the Greek-gift sacrificial (Bxh7+ followed by Ng5+) trick. This move was first played in Bauer-Bareev, Enghien les Bains 2003 and is a clear improvement over the following reactions: The slightly panicked Black cuts out the Greek-gift sacrificial (Bxh7+ followed by Ng5+) trick. This move was first played in Bauer-Bareev, Enghien les Bains 2003 and is a clear improvement over the following reactions: The slightly panicked 16...f5?! 1.25/21 16...fxe5 -0.22 is met by 17.g4! a4 18.gxf5 exf5 19.Nxd5! 0.88/18 (some pawns are less poisoned than others) *(⌓19.Kf2* 1.34/21 *)* 19...Qa5+± 20.Nd2! with a clear advantage to White, K. Nemcova-E.Danielian, Plovdiv 2008. White's knight doesn't hang on d5 as Qxd5?? 3.30/19 will get hit by the *(20...Kh8±* 0.84/21 is a better defense. *21.Rb5 Qd8)* 21.Bc4 pin, winning the queen.]

[16...fxe5 17.dxe5 Nc5? 1.47/18 was played in V.Bologan-C.Bauer, Belfort 2002. At this point White had

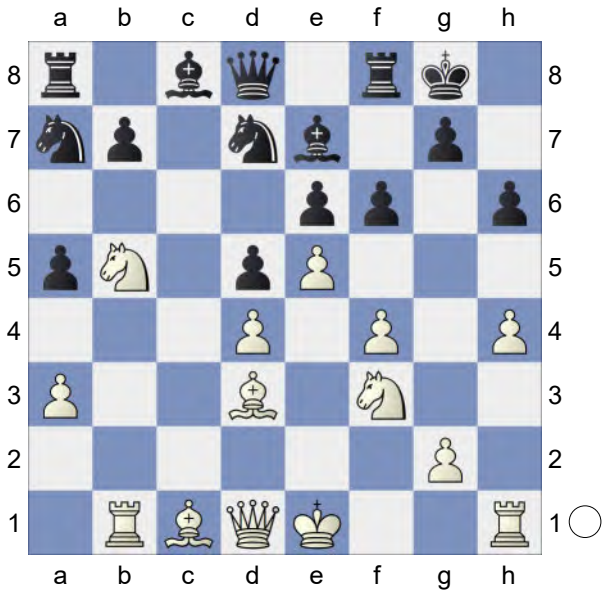
a winning attack with the standard sac *(17...h6!∓ -0.52/21)* 18.Bxh7+!± . It's amazing that two 2600+ players misassessed this thematic sac. Kxh7 19.Ng5+! Kg8? 3.77/19 *(19...Kh6± 1.39/22)* 20.Qh5!+- Nd3+ 21.Ke2! Nxc1+ 22.Rbxc1 Bxg5 23.hxg5 Nd4+ 24.Kd3 White threatens g6 and mate. Nf5 25.Nb5! Qb6 26.Qh8+ Kf7 27.Rc7+! Bd7 28.Nd6+! Nxd6 *(28...Ke7? 9.57/17 28...Qxd6 3.88 29.Nxf5+ exf5 30.Qxg7+ Rf7 31.Rxd7+!* is a game-ender) 29.Rxd7+ Ke8 30.Qxf8+! Kxd7 31.Qxg7+ Kc6 32.exd6 Qb3+ 33.Kd2 Qa2+ 34.Ke3 Qxa3+ 35.Ke2 Qc7+ would now be deadly. Qa2+ 36.Kf3 with no perpetual check in sight, Black's king is about to get fried.]

[16...fxe5= -0.27/20 remains equal. 17.dxe5 *(17.fxe5 Nxd4 18.Nxd4 Nxe5=)* 17...Nc5]

17.Nb5± Na7N

[17...Ra6 18.Bc2 f5 19.g4 Nb6 20.gxf5 exf5 21.Bd3 Na8 22.Kf2 Rb6 23.Qg1 Nc7 24.Nxc7 Qxc7 25.Rxb6 Qxb6 26.Qg6 Rf7 27.Rg1 Bxh4+ 28.Nxh4 Qxd4+ 29.Ke2 Nxe5 30.fxe5 Qxe5+ 31.Kd1 Qd4 32.Rg3 ½-½ 4.h3 Bg7 5.Nf3 de4 6.Ne (2582)-10.dc5 Bc5 11.Bd2 (2734) Nanjing 2010 (7)]

(Diagram)



The powerful b5-knight is immediately challenged. **18.Ng5!?** 0.46/21 Into the wild blue yonder. Normally a revolution-inciting demagogue is put to death for challenging the ruling authority – but only if he or she is caught. Now all hell breaks loose. Within the strands of Black's position is embedded a subliminal message – "Attack me!" so the Charles Mansonesque knight comes charging in with a kind of psychotic klutzy grandeur. **18...fxg5±**

[Declining the gift is out of the question as 18...Nb8? 3.67/21 18...fxg5 0.83 is met by 19.Qh5! (the threat is Qg6 and Qh7 mate!) and. White wants to mate with Qg6! fxg5 5.89/22 *(⌓19...Qe8 3.70/20 20.Qxe8 Rxe8)* 20.hxg5+- Qe8 Hoping for ... Qxh5. 21.Bg6! (even stronger than taking e8 and then forking on c7) Qd7 22.gxh6 gives White a winning attack.]

[18...hxg5? 19.Qh5 f5 20.hxg5+-]

19.hxg5 Threatens to win with Qh5.

19...Nxb5

[Most certainly not 19...hxg5?? #4/18 19...Nxb5 0.51 20.Rh8+ Kxh8

21.Qh5+ Kg8 22.Qh7+ Kf7 23.Bg6# mate! The bishop ministers to the spiritual needs of his flock, whether they ask for it or not.]

20.gxh6? -1.03/18 White crosses a barrier and pushes into unsound territory.

[He extracts a strong attack after 20.Rxb5! , yet Black's defensive resources look adequate to the task as well after Rf7 1.95/21 *(20...Qe8± 0.57/20)* 21.Bg6? 0.43/18 *(21.Qh5+- 1.95/21 Qc7 22.gxh6 Qxc1+ 23.Ke2 Qxh1 24.Qxh1)* 21...Qe8!± (triple purpose: Black's queen protects f7, keeps an eye on the b5-rook and keeps f8 clear for his knight) 22.gxh6 Nf8! *(22...Nxe5?? 6.38/20* 22...Nf8 0.63 *23.dxe5* Black must now prevent Qh5! *Qxb5 24.Qh5!* gives White a winning attack*)* 23.Bxf7+ Qxf7 24.hxg7 Kxg7 0.99/18 *(24...Qxg7± 0.58/22* was preferrable. *25.Qf3 Qg6)* 25.Rb3± Qf5 when it's anybody's game. Houdini rates this even while I prefer Black's minor pieces over White's attacking chances.]

[20.Rxb5± 0.67/21 stays ahead. Qc7 21.Rh3]

20...Bh4+!∓

[20...Nxa3? 21.hxg7 Bh4+ *(21...Nxb1 22.Rh8+ Kxg7 23.Rh7+ Kg8 24.Qg4+)* 22.Kf1+-]

21.Kf1 EXERCISE (critical decision): Should Black's knight fork on c3? Or should he take d4? **21...Nc3?** 0.00/23 Back returns the favour.

[ANSWER: Black consolidates with 21...Nxd4! And now ...Qg5 would win. 22.hxg7 Kxg7 and. aiming for ...Qg5! 23.Qg4+ -1.90/20 is met with the cool *(23.g3∓* -1.05/21 was forced. *Nf5 24.gxh4)* 23...Qg5 when Black defends everything.]

[Black should try 21...Nxd4∓ -1.47/21 ...Qg5 is the strong threat. 22.hxg7 Kxg7 *(22...Nxe5? 23.gxf8Q+ Qxf8 24.Bh7+ Kg7 25.Qxd4+-* Pin *)*]

22.Qg4= Threatening mate on the move as well as hitting the hanging h4-bishop and also the e6-pawn. **22...Qg5** White's attacking attempts do little to ruffle Black, who thwarts the mating threats at every turn. **23.Qxe6+** -2.56/19 One wrong step and White risks a plunge into a dark, bottomless abyss. Taking the pawn with check is tempting yet incorrect.

[White should play 23.Rxh4! Qxg4 24.Rxg4 when taking the b1-rook leads to perpetual check.]

[23.Rxh4= 0.00/23 Qxg4 24.Rxg4 Nxb1 25.Rxg7+ Kh8 26.Bxb1]

23...Kh8-+ 24.hxg7+ -3.75/22

[24.g3 -2.33/20 keeps fighting. Nxe5 *(24...Qxh6? 25.Rxh4+-; 24...Qxg3 25.hxg7+ Kxg7 26.Rg1±)* 25.Qd6]

24...Kxg7 25.f5 EXERCISE (critical decision): Black to play and win: Should he play 25...Qh5 which covers h6 and threatens ...Qd1 (mate!) or should he play 25...Qg3 which threatens ...Qf2 (mate too!) and hits the White's d3-bishop. Be careful. Only one of the lines works. **25...Qh5** 0.00/22 In attempting to shield the h6 weakness, Black inadvertently calls attention to it, making it all the more conspicuous.

[ANSWER: 25...Qg3! is a killing double attack and game ender after 26.Qh6+ Kg8 27.Be3 Nxe5! . The knight had kept e5 within eyeshot, awaiting the correct moment to strike. After 28.Rh3 Qg6! , the queen addresses her court, "You

would all do well to regard me as a model by which to base your own lives upon." Remarkably, Black's king continues to reside in a region of luxurious ease, despite the storm-driven attackers swirling about. 29.Qxh4 Bxf5 30.Kg1 Nf3+! (a good deflection shot!) 31.Rxf3 Bxd3 and the trouble is 32.Rg3 -7.15/22 fails miserably to *(⌓32.Rxf8+ -4.13/19 Rxf8 33.Rxb7)* 32...Ne2+ when White's king is ejected from his resting place, as if bucked from a wild horse.]

[Black should play 25...Qg3!-+ -2.35/24 26.Be3 Nxe5 *(26...Qxe3 27.Qg6+ Kh8 28.Rxh4+; 26...Nxb1 27.Qh6+ Kg8 28.Rxh4=)* 27.Qxe5+ Kg8 *(27...Qxe5? 28.dxe5 Nxb1 29.g4-+)* 28.Qxg3+ *(28.Rxh4? Qxh4 29.Rb6 Qg4-+)* 28...Bxg3]

26.g4!↑ This should force a draw. Deflection. White has the initiative.

26...Qxg4 27.Qh6+!

[27.Rg1? -4.15/16 27.Qh6+ 0.00 is met with the calm Bg3! 28.Bh6+ -6.20/19 *(⌓28.Qe7+ -3.98/22 Rf7 29.Qg5+ Qxg5 30.Bxg5 Nxe5 31.f6+ Kh8 32.Rh1+ Kg8 33.dxe5 Nxb1 34.Bxb1)* 28...Kh8! and Black wins, since White runs out of checks while Black threatens mate on f3.]

27...Kf7 28.Qe6+

[28.Qh7+? Ke8 29.Rxh4 Qf3+ 30.Ke1 Nxe5 *(30...Qxd3? 31.Qg6+ Kd8 32.Bg5+-+)* 31.dxe5 Bxf5 *(31...Qxd3 32.Qg6+ Kd8 33.Bg5+)* 32.Qh5+ Qxh5 33.Rxh5 Bxd3-+]

[28.Rxh4!? Qf3+□ 29.Ke1 Qg3+ *(29...Qxd3 30.Qe6+ Kg7 31.Qg6#)* 30.Kd2 Nxb1+ 31.Kc2= *(31.Bxb1 Ra6∓)*]

28...Kg7 29.Qh6+! Kg8 30.Rxh4?? -3.15/18 Caught right smack in the eye of a hurricane, we kid ourselves to believe there is no storm around us. In this case White refuses to act upon well-grounded apprehensions. Can a lifelong sinner sneak his way into heaven? The surest path to suicide in a chess game is to refuse to relent when the position screams that we should. However in time trouble, we live in a world of supposition, mingled with a belief in our own lucky star. In this instance, White pushed his luck too far and this astrological misalliance returns to haunt him.

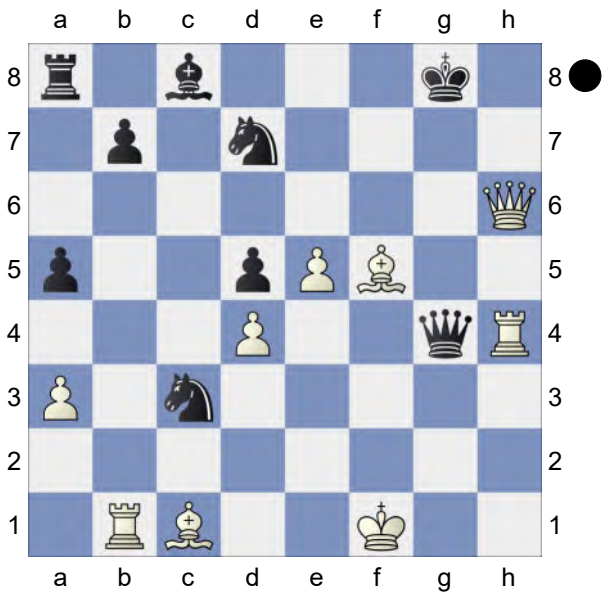
[should just take the perpetual check with 30.Rb2! Rxf5+ 31.Bxf5 Qxf5+ 32.Kg1! Qg4+ 33.Rg2 Ne2+ 34.Kf1 Ng3+ 35.Rxg3! Bxg3 36.Qh8+ Kf7 37.Rh7+ Ke6 38.Rh6+ Ke7 (→ ...Qf3+) *(38...Kf5?? #2/16* 38...Ke7 0.00 *39.Qh7+* and White mates on the next move*)* 39.Rh7+ Ke6 instead.]

[30.Rb2!= 0.00/22 and White has nothing to worry. Qd1+ *(30...Qxd4 31.Rg2+)* 31.Kg2 Qg4+ *(31...Qxd3 32.Qg6+ Kh8 33.Rxh4#)* 32.Kf1 Qd1+ *(32...Qxd4 33.Rg2+)* 33.Kg2 Qg4+ *(33...Qxd3 34.Qg6+ Kh8 35.Rxh4#)* 34.Kf1]

30...Rxf5+-+ 31.Bxf5? -#4/17

[31.Bf4-+ -2.98/18 Rxf4+ 32.Qxf4 Qxf4+ 33.Rxf4 Nxb1 34.Bxb1]

(Diagram)



EXERCISE (combination alert): The expansive sweep of White's dishevelment grows painfully apparent. Black to play and force mate in four moves: ANSWER: Zwischenzug. The surprise eclipses White's expectations. Black inserts an important proviso to the contract: He is under no obligation to automatically recapture f5. EXERCISE (combination alert): The expansive sweep of White's dishevelment grows painfully apparent. Black to play and force mate in four moves: ANSWER: Zwischenzug. The surprise eclipses White's expectations. Black inserts an important proviso to the contract: He is under no obligation to automatically recapture f5. **31...Qf3+!** The queen, feeling that tolerance has been pushed to her limits, decides the time has arrived to punish the f1–upstart, beginning her lecture with "I fully expected this attitude of non-cooperation. So now, we shall begin your re-education". Weighted Error Value: White=0.69/Black=0.34

[White is doomed after 31...Qf3+! 32.Kg1 Ne2+ 33.Kh2 Qg3+ 34.Kh1 Qg1# mate! The queen professes shock and dismay at her brother's sudden and mysterious death. Yet the faintest hint of the Mona Lisa smile on her lips betrays her true feelings.]

[White must have hoped for the blundering 31...Qxf5+?? 6.74/23 31...Qf3+ -#4 32.Ke1 Threatening mate with Qh8+. Nf8 33.Qh8+ Kf7 34.Rb6 Ne4 Repels Rf6+ 35.Rf4 and White wins instead. SUMMARY: Bartel's adoption of Bareev's 16...h6! dampens White's kingside ambitions considerably. Black's chances look at least even in the coming complications. and White wins instead. SUMMARY: Bartel's adoption of Bareev's 16...h6! dampens White's kingside ambitions considerably. Black's chances look at least even in the coming complications.]

[31...Qxf5+? perishes. 32.Ke1 Nf8 33.Qh8+ Kf7 34.Rb6+-]

0-1

295 **C11**

□ **Anand,Viswanathan**

■ **Kasparov,Garry**

18: World Championship Match (3)

[Garry Kasparov,MH]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 b5 8.a3 c4N**

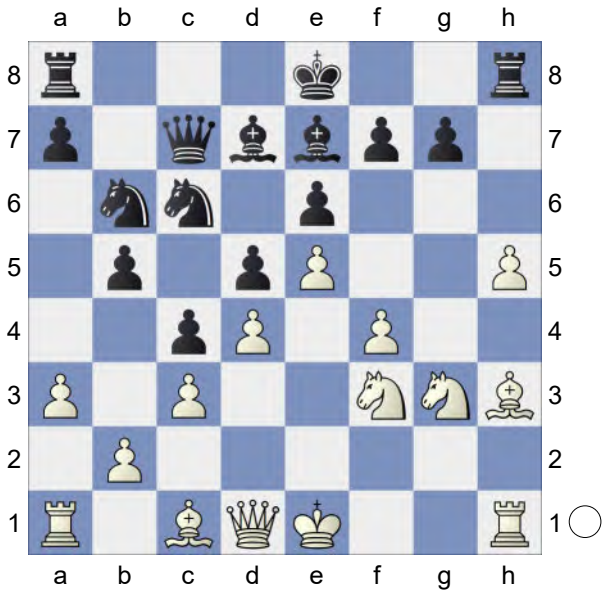
[8...Qb6! , etc. 9.Nf3 c4 1.06/21 *(9...Be7± 0.52/20)* 10.g4!± f6! 11.Bh3 fxe5 1.74/21 *(11...Be7± 1.06/22 keeps fighting.)* 12.fxe5+- Be7! and wins – Anand worse is

13.Nf4? 1.39/23 *(13.g5+- 1.84/23)* 13...Nf8± or 14.Nh5?]
[8...cxd4 9.Nxd4 Nxd4 10.cxd4 *(10.Qxd4 Bc5 11.Qd3 0-0 12.Nf3 f6 13.Nd4 Nxe5 14.fxe5 fxe5 15.Nc2 Bf2+ 16.Kd1 e4 17.Qe2 e5 18.Be3 Qh4 19.g3 Bxg3 20.hxg3 Qxh1 21.Kd2 a6 22.Bg2 Qh2 23.Rg1 Be6 24.Bf1 Qxe2+* 0-1 Vit spelar 7.Sgf3 (2610)-10.dc5 ♗c5 11. ♗d2 (2680) 108/128 Bursa 2010 *)* 10...b4 11.a4 *(11.axb4 Bxb4+ 12.Bd2 Qb6 13.Nf3 a5 14.Bd3 Ba6 15.Bxa6 Rxa6 16.0-0 0-0 17.Ra4 Bxd2 18.Qxd2 Rb8 19.Rfa1* Situru,N-Aymerich Martinez,J (ch) India 1988*)* 11...Qa5 12.Bd2 Be7 13.Nf3 0-0 14.Bb5 Vodicka,M-Leskovac,N 3rd Chess 2015]

9.Nf3 Nb6 10.g4 f5 White is slightly better.

[10...a5 0.93/19 10...h5 0.53 11.Ng3 f5 1.36/19 *(11...b4± 0.70/20)*]
[10...h5! 11.gxh5 Rxh5 12.Ng3!? 0.24/20 Wards off f5 *(12.Qc2± 0.60/23* feels stronger.*)* 12...Rh8!= 13.h4 Be7 0.77/18 *(13...f5=* 0.27/20 *)* 14.h5± Bd7 1.41/20 *(⌓14...Na5* 0.90/21 *)* 15.Bh3 0.59/20 *(15.Qc2±* 1.41/20 *)* 15...Qc7 1.88/20 *(*Black should try *15...f5!±* 0.59/20 *)*

(Diagram)



16.f5 1.02/20 *(16.Ng5!+-* 1.88/20 *)*]

11.gxf5 exf5 12.Bg2

[12.h4 Be7 13.h5 Be6 14.Ng5 , repelling the attack (Makarychev). However, my opponent did not notice a simple transposition of moves – Qd7! . 15.Nxe6 . Now Black loses after Qxe6? 16.Ng3!]

12...Be7 13.0-0 0.39/24

[13.h4± 0.88/21]

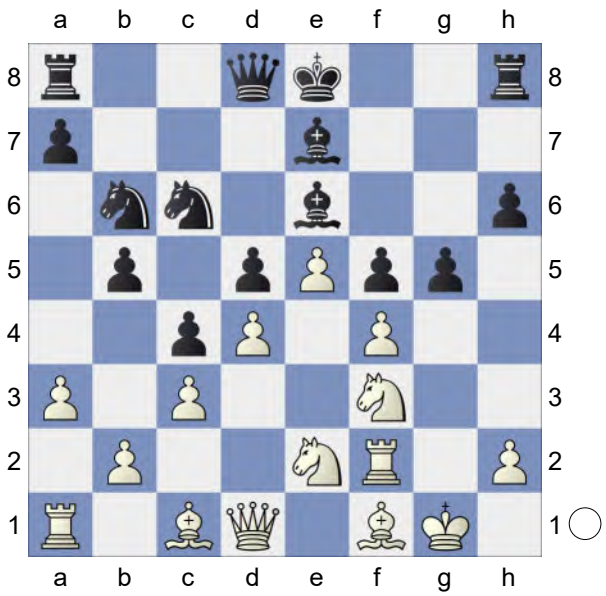
13...h6±

[13...a5]

14.Rf2 Be6 15.Bf1 g5? 1.75/22

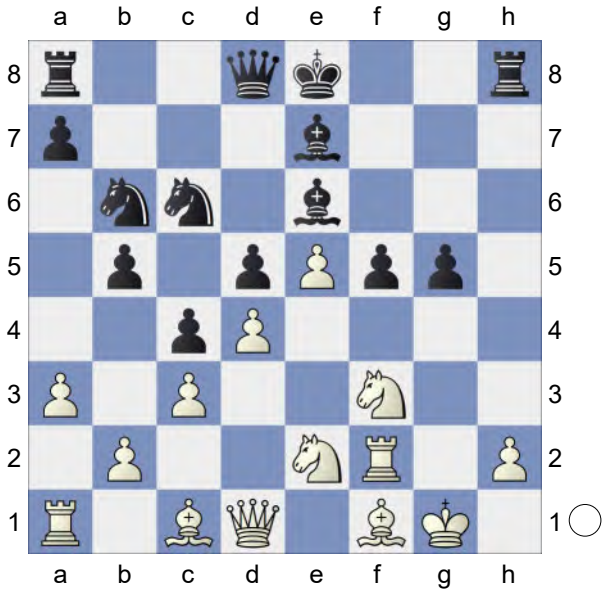
[15...Qd7 0.72/21 15...Na5 0.22]
[15...g6! White has nothing, for example,]
[15...Kd7= 0.21/22]

(Diagram)



A mistake that costs the game.

16.fxg5!+- hxg5



17.h4! g4
[17...gxh4 18.Nf4 Qd7 19.Bh3 0-0-0 20.Nxe6 Qxe6 21.Ng5 Qg8 22.Rxf5 1.26/22 And, indeed, after *(22.Bxf5++- 1.81/21 Kb7 23.Qg4)* 22...Kb8? 1.92/21 *(22...Kb7± 1.26/22)* 23.Kh2]

18.Ng5 Bc8 3.58/22
[18...Bxg5 2.87/19 18...Qd7 1.64 19.Bxg5 Qd7 20.Nf4]
[18...Qd7 1.66/21 19.Ng3 Bxg5 *(19...0-0-0? 20.Nxe6 Bxh4 21.Nxd8+-)* 20.Bxg5 Ne7]

19.Rh2! While Vishy was thinking (this lasted 29 minutes), I went off to the rest room and there I suddenly realised that he was calculating the combination involving the e4-e5 break and the typical bishop sacrifice on h7. Regretting that on the 17th move I had rushed with ... Nd7-c5, I began feverishly wondering how to get out of this mess. And I took a decision while still 'behind the scenes'.

19...a5!? 'Sensing the full extent of the danger impending over his position, Garry made this move confidently and imperturbably, but above all – amazingly quickly. And the psychological reckoning worked!' (Makary-chev)

20.Ng3? Anand took me at my word!

20...Ra6 With a draw on the 37th move.

21.Be3 Na4 22.Qc2 Rf8 23.Rf2 Qd7
[23...Rh8 5.82/17 23...Bxg5 3.71 24.Nxf5 Bxf5 25.Qxf5]

24.e6 White is clearly winning. **24...Qc7**

25.Bf4
[25.Nh5]

25...Bd6 26.Bxd6 Qxd6 27.Nxf5 Weighted Error Value: White=0.14 (very precise) /Black=0.56. An unexpected result.

½-½

296 **C11**
□ **Anand,V..**
■ **Shirov,Alexei**
37: Grand Slam 2010
[Cyrus Lakdawala,MH]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6** When are people going to understand that the French Defence is a sub-par choice against

Anand!? **2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7** This move is our gateway to the McCutcheon, one of the most perplexing (for both sides) lines of the French. **5.Nce2** White thematically grabs space and attacks the pinned f6-knight. **5...c5** We have no choice but to break White's pin. **6.f4** The main line. **6...Nc6 7.c3 Qb6 8.Nf3** White forces a concession. **8...f6** Black agrees to weaken the dark squares around his kingside to preserve castling privileges.

[8...Be7 9.a3 0-0 10.h4 and Black resigned, A.Delorme-T.Flachet, Nantes 2006. Indeed, f6! is risky but probably still Black's best move: 11.Rh3 Na5 12.b4 cxb4 13.axb4 Nc4 14.Ng3 a5 15.Bd3 f5 *(15...Ra7 16.Ng5* when White is completely winning due to his advanced h-pawn despite being two pieces down with his king on the run. Following *fxg5! 17.Bxh7+* (no choice!) *Kxh7 18.hxg5+ Kg8 19.g6)* 16.Ng5 Rd8 and we transpose back to the Frangi-Turkov game where chances look even. Here my suggestion is 17.Qh5 . a perplexing continuation is Bxg5 18.Qxg5 *(18.hxg5 Nf8)* 18...Rf8 19.Nh5 Rf7 20.Rg3 g6 21.Bxc4 dxc4 22.b5 Qxb5 23.Ba3 and I have no idea who stands better here! Houdini rates at even. Black has two pawns for the exchange and each side enjoys a deeply entrenched passer . After b6 , Black must be careful as 24.Qh6? runs into Bb7! 25.Rxg6+ hxg6 26.Qxg6+ Kh8 27.Qxf7 Rg8 28.Bf8 Nxf8 29.Nf6]

9.a3

[9.h4? cxd4! favours Black 10.cxd4? loses after Bb4+]

9...Be7 10.h4 -0.14/20 Compare this position to the Winawer French. The structure may be similar, but in the case of the McCutcheon, Black owns one gigantic plus: White doesn't retain his monster dark-squared bishop, as in the Winawer.

[10.b4 0.24/23 is superior.]

10...0-0 0.27/22

[⌓10...a5 -0.14/20]

11.Rh3 -0.10/18

[11.b4 0.27/22 was preferrable.]

11...a5!= One idea of this move order is to avoid committing the b8-knight early to retain d7 possibilities.

[11...Na5 0.64/18 11...a5 0.00]

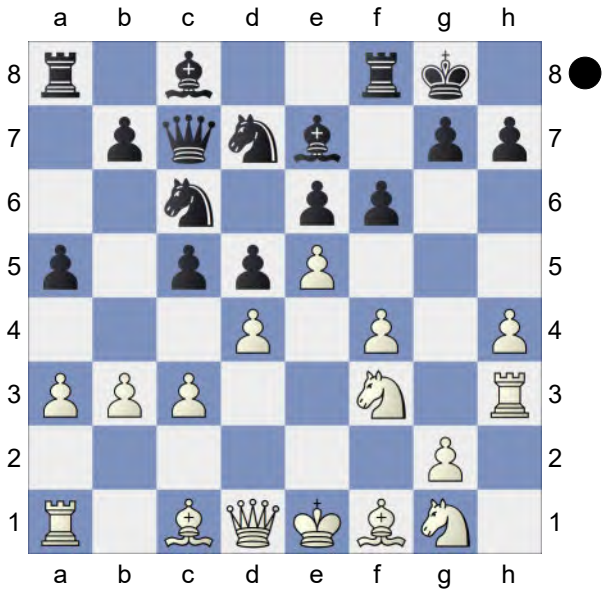
12.b3 -0.48/21

[12.h5= 0.00/21]

12...Qc7∓ Applying pressure to the d4-pawn.

[12...Qd8?? is met with the crushing]

13.Neg1

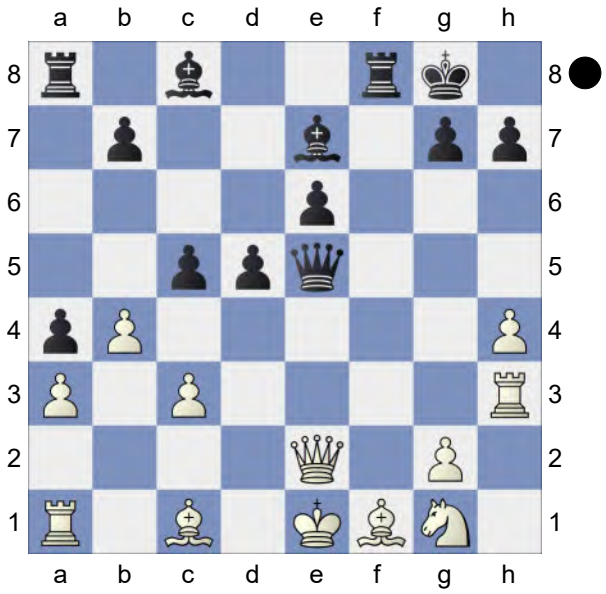


White ignores the threat. White's queen has her eye on f6 and the kingside dark squares. **13...a4** 0.00/24 **14.b4!?=** Risky and ambitious. One comes to expect such breaches of decorum from Anand. **14...fxe5!? 15.fxe5 Ndxe5!?** Watson calls this move "passive" and I

think he is correct. The move may be playable but somehow the vitality of Black's defences feel as if they have receded. QUESTION: Why not play the more aggressive 15...Rg8? ANSWER: Shirov may have been deterred by the tempo gain when White pushes his passed pawn to h7 if Black's rook is posted on g8. **16.dxe5N Nxe5 17.Nxe5 Qxe5+ 18.Qe2** -0.40/20

[18.Ne2! Qf5 19.Rf3 Bxh4+ 20.Kd2 Bg5+! and the rook does little to assuage the black king's already bruised ego. With 21.Ke1 Bh4+ , the power mad queen's dream to keep her enemy in her thrall, finally comes to fruition. "It gladdens my heart that you will not outlive your infamy," she informs Black's fugitive king and wraps things up with]

[18.Ne2= 0.00/23]



The knight spirals giddily heavenward to his target. As we can see, there are issues with posting the rook on f8 as well! **18...Bxh4+?** 0.73/20 The position remained in a state of flux – until now. After this move Black finds himself in serious danger. Shirov loses his grip on the position's essence, allowing himself to get distracted. **19.Kd1!±** **Qf6** 2.24/20 Loses the game.

[19...Bf6! 20.Qxe5 *(20.bxc5!? Qc7 21.Qd3±)* 20...Bxe5 21.Bd3 g6! and this time, the king chase works for White. Dozens of goblin eyes peer malevolently at Black's king, whose existence is permeated with a seemingly endless series of crisis of varying intensity. The hunt is on with]

[Black should play 19...Bf6!± 0.69/21]

20.Nf3!+-

[20.Rf3 Qe7±]

20...Qxc3! In a chess game, it isn't reasonable to believe you will foresee every potential outcome. Instead, the key is to adapt efficiently to rapid alterations in circumstances, as Shirov displays here.

[20...g5 21.Nxh4! Threatens to win with Rf3. Qxf1+ 22.Qxf1 Rxf1+ 23.Ke2 Rxc1 24.Rxc1 and White should win since the h-pawn ties Black down. gxh4! retains White's advantage. but 25.Rxh4! transposes to the winning note from above. Let's look at other choices: b6? 26.Ke3 Ra7 27.bxc5 bxc5 28.Rg4+ and strangely enough, Black is fine. Rg7! is the most exact line, which augments White's already considerable resources. 29.Rxa4]

21.Bb2 Qb3+ 22.Kc1! To survive, Black faces three separate knots to untangle: 1. The most obvious: King safety. 2. Black, in most lines will emerge an exchange for a pawn down. 3. Black must deal with White's dangerous passed h-pawn in all endings and some middlegames. **22...e5!** Calmly allowing a

truckload of discoveries.

[22...Bf6? 4.18/23 22...e5 2.06 and it is Black who may be winning. Black's king plays dumb, but White's queen isn't so dumb as to believe his act He should cash out with 23.Bxf6! Rxf6 24.Nd2]

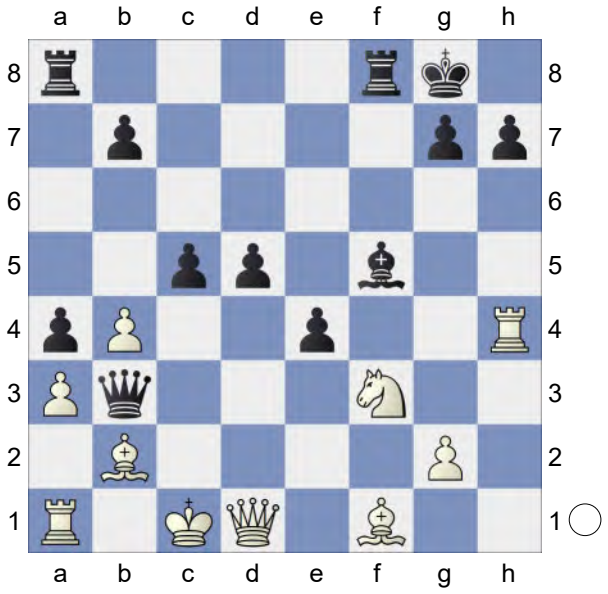
23.Rxh4 White's second best move.

[23.Nd2! is correct. After Rf2 24.Qxe5 Qxb2+ 25.Qxb2 Bxh3 26.gxh3 Bg5 27.Qe5 Dodges Re8 Bxd2+ 2.43/21 *(⌓27...Rxf1+ 1.89/23 28.Kc2 Rxa1)* 28.Kd1+- cxb4 aiming for ...Bc3. 29.axb4 Bxb4 , it is perpetual check. 30.Be2?]

23...Bf5 **24.Qd1** Black must now prevent Qxb3.

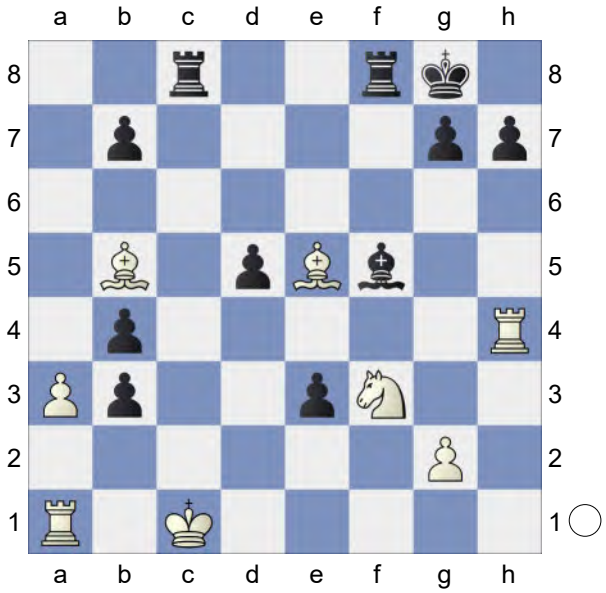
[24.bxc5 Ra5 25.Rb4 *(25.Bxe5? Rxc5+ 26.Kd2 Rc2+ 27.Ke1 Rxe2+ 28.Bxe2 Re8-+; 25.Qf2? d4-+)* 25...Rxc5+ 26.Kd2 Rc2+ 27.Kd1 Rxb2+ 28.Rxb3 Rxe2 29.Rxb7 Re4±]

24...e4



25.Qxb3! Still winning, **25...axb3** **26.Nd2?!** EXERCISE (combination alert): This looks crushing but isn't. White's all-powerful queen and knight gaze in distaste upon Black's grimy masses, above their bustle, clamour and strife. Sometimes we must find a defensive combination. The once-scattered threats congeal into a dual, existential crisis, as potential combinations flutter about to and fro. White threatens both Nc4+ and Nxf7+ and a rudimentary glance seems to tell us Black has no defence. But...he does! What did Shirov find to keep himself afloat? ANSWER: Black may still be losing after this move, but it is the only one which keeps him afloat. **26...e3!** **27.Nf3** **Rae8!** Sometimes compliance to our opponent's wishes serves our interests better than open resistance. **28.Kd1** Why is it that when we work out a plan which looks 99% sound, that annoying 1% always seems to rear its ugly head? In situations of mutual confusion, where we feel we reached the summit of inanity, another mistake often follows, topping the rest. Anand's ardour for the attack refuses to cool. He falters in the head-spinning complications.

[28.Bb5 Rc8 29.Be5! cxb4+



30.Kb2! Rc2+ 31.Kxb3 bxa3 32.Rxa3 Rxg2 33.Nd4 won't be easy for White to convert but my feeling is that he should be able to pull off a win. Inhibits Bc2+.]
[28.bxc5 e2 29.Kd2 exf1R 30.Rxf1 Re4+-]
28...c4?! 29.Be2?! If Anand and Shirov commit mistakes on almost every move, imagine us here! **29...Be4 30.Kc1 Re6**
[30...Bd3 31.Rg4! g6 32.Kd1]
31.Bc3 Rg6 32.Rh2
[32.Rxe4 dxe4 33.Nd4 *(33.Bxc4+ Kh8±; 33.Nh4 Rc6=)* 33...Rxg2 34.Bxc4+ Kh8+-]
32...Bd3 33.Bxd3 cxd3 Forcing the draw. **34.Kb2 d2** Time, which White doesn't have on his side, slips away. The win is gone. **35.Kxb3 Rg3** Now Black's queen spreads discomfort to White's king, like marmalade on toast.
36.Kb2
[36.Kc2]
36...g5 The game ends in perpetual check. **37.Kc2** Strongly threatening Nd4. **37...Rc8** Black's queen is clearly besotted with the white king.
[37...g4 4.38/22 37...Rc8 2.77 38.Nd4 Rf2 39.Rah1 e2 40.Kxd2 e1Q+ 41.Kxe1 Rxc3 and White stands better due to his passed g-pawn 42.Ne2! is White's last try when]
38.Kd3 . SUMMARY: If you revel in irrational positions, then the 8...g6 McCutcheon lines are for you. 15...Rg8! may be an improvement over Shirov's choice of 15...Rf8. Black can play for a win but also risks losing also after **38...g4 39.Be5**
[39.Ne5 d1Q+ 40.Rxd1 Rxc3+ 41.Kxc3 e2+ and Houdini rates the ending at dead even. 42.Kd2? exd1Q+ 43.Kxd1 Rxa3! 44.Nxg4]
39...Rc1 40.Rh1
[40.Kxe3? d1Q *(40...d1R? 41.Rxc1 Rxc1 42.Bxg3+-)* 41.Rxc1 Qxc1+-+]
[40.Nxd2 exd2+ 41.Kxd2 *(41.Bxg3 d1Q+ 42.Ke3 Rxa1 43.a4 Rxa4 44.Rh6 Rxb4 45.Re6 Qd4+ 46.Ke2 Rb2+ 47.Kf1 Qd3+ 48.Kg1 Qxg3 49.Re8+ Kf7)* 41...Rxa1 Remove Defender 42.Bxa1 *(42.Bxg3 Ra2+ 43.Ke3 Rxa3+ 44.Kf4 Ra4+-)* 42...Rxa3+-]
40...Rxg2 41.Nh4 Weighted Error Value: White=0.18 (very precise) / Black=0.24 (precise) . An unexpected result.
[41.Nh4 Rxa1 42.Rxa1! d1R+ 5.99/21 *(42...e2* 4.21/17 is a better defense. *43.Kxd2 Rf2)* 43.Rxd1+- Ra2 44.Kxe3]
[Resist 41.Raxc1 dxc1B 42.Rxc1 gxf3 43.Kxe3 Re2+ 44.Kf4 *(44.Kxf3 Rxe5 45.Rc5 h5=; 44.Kd4 Rd2+ 45.Ke3 Re2+ 46.Kd4 Rd2+ 47.Kc5 Kf7+-)* 44...h5+-]
[41.Rhxc1 dxc1R 42.Rxc1 gxf3 43.Kxe3 Re2+ 44.Kd4 *(44.Kxf3 Rxe5 45.Rc5 h5=)* 44...Rd2+ 45.Kc5 Kf7+-]
½-½

297 **C11**
□ **Dr Balogh**
■ **Novak**
Budapest 1955
[Kitty Kat]

C14: French: Classical System: 4 Bg5 Be7 main line C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 Womanhood xiv p.120;; BCM 1906 pp498-9: 'Womanhood xiv p.120; played 25 Nov 1904 to 23 April 1905 BCM 1906

p498; this issue had a profile of Cutler (with photo?). Cutler won a prize for this game against Stables. Many entertaining notes not input. Stables apparently died around the time the fifth tournament prelims ended in 1905; see Womanhood xv p.309 quoting from a letter hsi widow wrote to Cutler.' RR: 'Inf 85/(266)' **1.d4 e6 2.e4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 Qb6 8.Nf3 Be7 9.Qc2** -0.18/23

[9.g3± 0.32/22]

[9.a3 f6 10.h4 0-0 11.b4 *(11.Rh3 a5 12.b3 Qc7 13.Neg1 a4 14.b4 fxe5 15.fxe5 Ndxe5* Vodicka,M-13...cxd4 14.cxd4 Qd6 #2 USSR (ch) 5/122 1967 *)* 11...cxd4 12.cxd4 a5 13.b5 Qxb5 14.Nc3 Qb6 15.Rb1 Qd8 16.Bd3 fxe5 17.dxe5 Nc5 18.Nb5 Nxd3+ 19.Qxd3 h6 20.Qg6 Bologan,V (2652)-Bauer,C (2571) 85/(266) Belfort 2002]

9...f6N

[9...0-0 is more complex. 10.h4 f6 11.Rh3 cxd4 12.cxd4 fxe5 13.fxe5 Ncxe5 14.dxe5 Nxe5 15.Bg5 Bb4+]

[9...cxd4 10.cxd4 0-0 11.Be3 f6 12.h4 fxe5 13.fxe5 Rxf3 14.gxf3 Ndxe5 15.0-0-0 Nb4 16.Qb3 Nc4 17.Kb1 a5 18.a4 e5 19.Rd2 Bf5+ 20.Kc1 Qc6 21.Bf2 Qh6 22.f4 exf4 23.Nc3 Nxd2 24.Kxd2 0-1 Stables,W-Cutler,G Womanhood tourney-4 final-A 1905]

10.Bd2 last book move

[10.Be3]

10...fxe5 0.64/22

[10...0-0= 0.00/22]

11.fxe5 White is slightly better. **11...a5** Black has the pair of bishops **12.h4 Qa7??** 1.93/20 throws away the game

[12...a4± 0.66/21]

13.Be3!+- 1.11/19 Deflection: e6

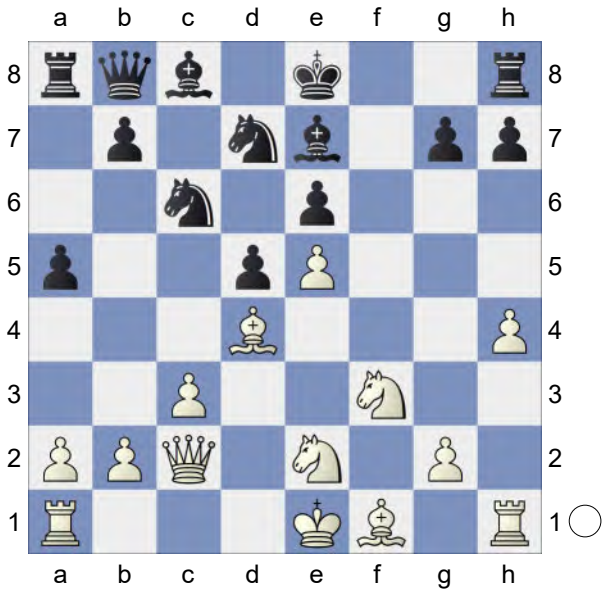
[13.Nf4+- 1.93/20]

13...cxd4 14.Bxd4 0.53/20

[Better is 14.Nexd4± 1.34/23 Bb5 would now be deadly. Ndxe5 15.Nxe5 Nxe5 16.Nf5]

14...Qb8 1.23/21

[14...Nc5± 0.53/20]



15.Nf4!± Nf8+- 2.56/20

[15...0-0± 1.53/20]

16.Bd3 b5 3.48/19 Decoy Discovered attack Double attack

[16...Qc7 2.42/20 might work better. 17.Qf2 Nxd4 18.cxd4 Bd7]

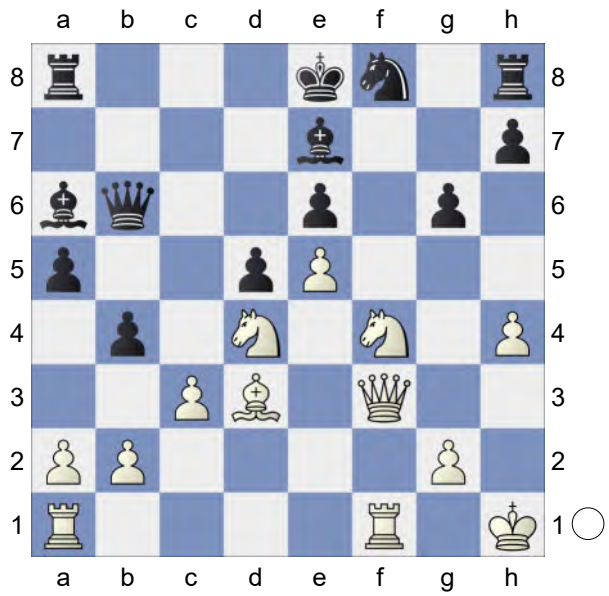
17.Qe2 Deflection Pinning **△17...b4 18.0-0** Wins material **▭18...g6=** saving the game **19.Kh1 Nxd4 20.Nxd4**

[Not 20.cxd4 Bd7 21.Qf2 Rg8+-]

20...Qb6 21.Qf3 Ba6 8.04/20

[21...Bd7 3.69/16 22.Nh3 0-0-0]

(Diagram)



Prevents Bb5+. **22.Nxd5!+- exd5 23.Qf7+ Kd7 24.Rf6 Qb7 25.Rd6+** Weighted Error Value: White=0.30/ Black=0.92
1-0

298 **C11**
□ **Lalic,Bogdan**
■ **Speelman,Jonathan S**
12: Hastings Premier, England 2000
[Cyrus Lakdawala,MH]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 Qb6 8.Nf3 Be7** Black holds off on ...f6, keeping White wondering if he will play it or not. **9.g3**
[In the next game, we will look at 9.a3 .]
9...a5!? Speelman wilfully infringes the position's normal plan. QUESTION: Why does Black play ...a5 when White isn't even threatening to play b4? ANSWER: Since White tossed in g3, playing ...f6, in a sense plays into White's hands since it allows Bh3, attacking e6. In this instance, Black refuses to oblige with ...f6 and instead seeks to make territorial gains on the queenside with ...a4. **10.h4** 0.16/23
[Let's have a look at the alternatives: 10.Bh3 a4 11.0-0 0-0 12.Kh1 a3 13.b3 cxd4 14.cxd4 Ndb8!? 15.Nc3 Nb4 16.Be3 Bd7 17.g4 Qa6! (intending to spoil White's attacking fun with ...Qd3 next) 18.Ne1 Dodges Qd3 N8c6 , C.Tesik-A.Illner Budapest 2012. Black looks fine since 19.f5?! -0.59/19 is met with *(*White should try *19.Qd2=* 0.00/23 *)* 19...f6 when White's position begins to reach the cusp of overextension.]
[10.a4 -0.06/22 10.Bh3 0.55 0-0 0.64/24 *(10...f6=* -0.06/22 *)* 11.Bh3 -0.01/21 *(11.Kf2!±* 0.64/24 *)* 11...cxd4= 12.cxd4 f6! *(* Black can also consider *12...Ndb8!?* 0.64/21 12...f6 0.04 as seen in the above variation *)* 13.Bxe6+ Kh8 14.exf6! Bb4+ 15.Nc3 Nxf6 16.Bxc8 Re8+ 17.Kf2 Bxc3 18.bxc3 Raxc8 and Black has more than enough compensation for the pawn. He owns the e4-square and the c3-pawn is weak, L.Gorin-S.Volkov, Bydgoszcz 2000.]
[10.Bh3± 0.53/23]
10...a4 11.Bh3 Ndb8!? 0.76/24 A stunning theoretical novelty! Jon Speelman, one of the most original chess-thinkers of our time, has the disconcerting habit of filling his head with impossible, nonsensical fantasy and then somehow transforming fiction into a reality. Nimzowitsch would approve of this bizarre idea. Speelman strives to reroute and activate his worst-placed piece via a6 or c6. QUESTION: Can Black get away with such a flagrant

violation? ANSWER: He can, as long as the position remains closed. Also, let's remember that White indulged in an awful lot of non-developing pawn pushes earlier in the game. So Speelman's idea feels justified.

[Previously played was 11...cxd4 12.cxd4 a3 13.b3 f5 14.h5 h6 1.09/25 *(14...Ndb8± 0.52/20)* 15.Kf2 0-0 16.Be3 Ndb8 1.51/22 There it is again! *(⌓16...Rf7 0.80/21)* 17.g4 1.00/19 *(⌓17.Rg1 1.51/22)* 17...fxg4± 18.Bxg4 Bd7 19.Qd3 Nb4 1.85/20 *(19...Bd8± 1.07/22* was called for.*)* 20.Qg6 and I don't like Black's game since Rag1 and f5 are in the air, creating great danger to Black's king, M.Holeksa-T.Sedlacek, correspondence 1997.]

[11...Qa7± 0.37/22 deserves consideration.]

12.h5!? Played to prevent ...h5. This move may be the seed of White's coming difficulties.

[Lalic criticized his last move, claiming that 12.0-0 was superior. QUESTION: Why was he afraid to castle during the game? ANSWER: Lalic may have feared the blocking plan h5 but in his analysis he pointed out the plan 13.Kg2 followed by a future g4, prying open the kingside. Let's take a look at a possible scenario: g6 14.Rh1 0.33/24 *(14.c4± 0.71/22)* 14...Bd7 15.g4 cxd4 16.cxd4 hxg4 17.Bxg4 Nd8 18.Rb1 Bb5 and the bishop, having performed a miracle, falls to his knees to give thanks for its emergence. After 19.Nc3 Nbc6 20.Be3 Qa6 21.Nxb5 Qxb5 22.Ng5 a3 23.bxa3 Qa4! 24.Rb3 Na5 25.Rd3 Qxd1 26.Bxd1 Nc4 27.Bf2 Bxa3 28.h5 gxh5 29.Rdh3! Be7 30.a4! Rg8 31.Rxh5 Kd7 32.Kf3 , Houdini rates this position at dead even.]

12...cxd4N 13.cxd4 Bd7 14.0-0 Na5 Black slowly unravels his queenside congestion. **15.Nc3**

[Let's look at the players' alternate suggestions: 15.b3!? 0.33/21 15.Rb1 0.96 which looks incorrect to me since it violates the principle: Don't engage the opponent on his or her strong wing.]

[Speelman, on the other hand, preferred 15.f5 exf5 16.Nc3 with a double attack on a4 and d5. Following Qc6 17.Bg2 0.25/19 , at this point I would diverge from the Speelman's suggested *(17.Nh4± 0.85/18)*

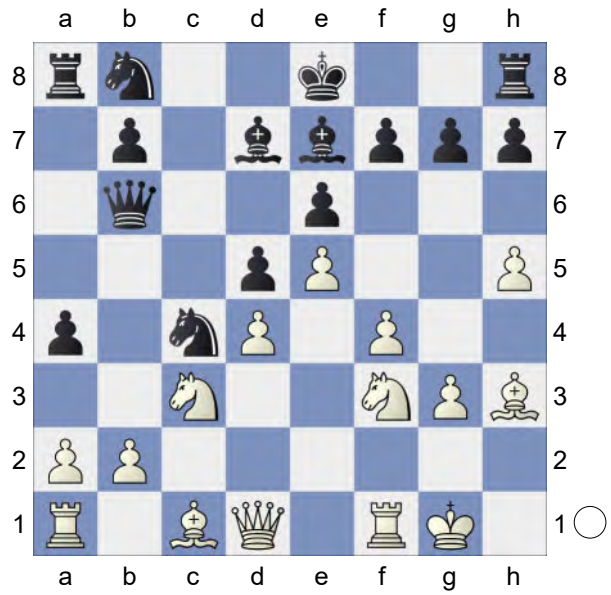
A) and try 17...a3 18.Nh4 Bxh4 19.Nxd5 -0.22/21 *(Better is 19.gxh4± 0.50/21 Be6 20.Qf3)* 19...Bxg3 0.40/20 *(19...axb2!= -0.22/21 20.Bxb2 Bg5)* 20.Qd3!± Bh4 21.b4! *(21.Nf6+? -2.29/18* 21.b4 0.22 wins the queen but leaves Black with a winning position after *gxf6 22.Bxc6 Nbxc6* with three minor pieces and a coming attack for the queen*)* 21...Qc4 0.77/24 *(21...Nc4± 0.34/22* was preferrable.*)* 22.Qxc4 0.17/20 *(22.Rd1!± 0.77/24)* 22...Nxc4= 23.Nc7+ Ke7!

A1) 24.Rf4!? Bg5 25.Rf3 *(25.Nxa8 Nc6±)* 25...Bxc1 26.Rxc1 Nxe5 27.Nd5+ Ke6 28.Nc7+ *(28.dxe5 Ra4=)* 28...Ke7 29.Nd5+ Ke6 30.Nc7+ *(30.dxe5 Nc6=)* 30...Ke7=;

A2) 24.Nxa8 Nc6 25.Nc7 Nxd4 26.Bxb7 Nxe5 when Black gets full compensation for the

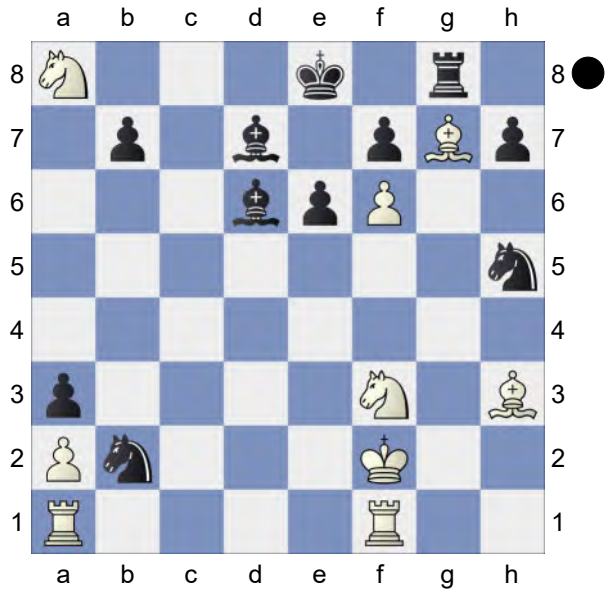
exchange.;
B) 17...a3= 0.25/19 keeps the balance.;
C) 17...Be6 0.79/20]

15...Nc4



The knight swings from tree to tree in Tarzan fashion. Speelman wisely declines to castle, reasoning that his king actually remains safer in the centre. **16.f5!** An absolutist is one who never settles for a cheap substitute of the genuine item. **16...Nxb2 17.Qe2** 0.72/20
[⩲17.Qd2! 1.11/21 Nc4 18.Qd3]
17...a3± 18.f6 Thematic. **18...gxf6** EXERCISE (critical decision): How should White pursue his attacking ambitions? He can play 19 exf6, opening attacking lines, or he can gamble with the piece sac 19 Nxd5. Only one path is correct. **19.exf6?** Now White's impossible dream virtually disappears. The move strips White's position of much of its glamour and doubt about White's attacking efficiency flies about like sparks from a hammered anvil. After this serious strategic error, White's initiative, which by now resembles discount bulk rate chewing gum, quickly loses its flavour. White's last move opens the g-file for Black, enables ...Bd6, and plugs up the f-file. White is in too deep to play it safe here. He must continue with the line-opening sac.
[ANSWER: 19.Nxd5! 0.00/27 19.exf6 0.60 exd5 20.exf6 Qxf6 21.Bg5 Qd6 22.Rae1 Qxg3+ -0.59/19 *(22...Bxh3= 0.00/27 23.Qxe7+ Qxe7 24.Rxe7+ Kf8)* 23.Bg2∓ Be6 24.Bxe7! Kxe7 and the king strikes out alone, entering an uncaring world. However, White has the dangerous riposte 25.Ng5! Qxg5 26.Rxf7+! Kd8! (forced) 27.Qxe6 Ra6 and the position is absolutely unclear and anyone's game after. Wards off Qd6+ 28.Qh3! Nc4 And now ...Rg8 would win. 29.Rf5 Qd2 30.Rxd5+ Rd6 31.Qh4+ Kc7 32.Rc5+ Rc6 33.Bxc6 bxc6 (Black threatens ... Rg8+) 34.Qg3+ Nd6 35.Re7+! Kc8 36.Qg4+ . Black's harried king hasn't seen his ex-wife for quite a while and wishes he could extend not seeing her ad infinitum. Following Kd8 37.Re6 Kc7 aiming for ...Rf8! 38.Qg7+ Nd7 , Houdini rates this mess at 0.00.]
19...Bd6! Speelman cleverly 'hangs' the d5-pawn. Black's king looks safe and he is up a pawn with the superior attack. **20.Bh6** -0.54/21
[20.Nxd5? -0.27/20 20.Bf4 0.61 fails to the dirty trick Qb5! 21.Qxb5 Bxb5 22.Re1 Nd3 23.Re4 Bxg3 . *(23...Bc6!? 24.Bxe6 Ra5 25.Bf5+ Kd8=)*]
[20.Nxd5 Qb5 21.Qxb5 Bxb5=]
[20.Bf4!± 0.69/20]
20...Nc6?! This move may allow White back into the game.

[More accurate is 20...Rg8! 21.Bg7 Nc6 when 22.Nxd5 -1.59/21 is met with *(22.Nb5∓ -0.58/22 Bxg3 23.Rab1)* 22...Nxd4∓ 23.Nxb6 Nxe2+ 24.Kg2 Nxg3! -0.86/19 *(⌓24...Ra5! -1.53/25 25.Rad1 Nxd1 26.Rxd1 Nxg3 27.Rxd6 Ne4 28.Rxd7 Nxf6 29.Rxb7 Rxg7+ 30.Kf1 Rg3)* 25.Nxa8∓ Nxh5 26.Kf2



Bc6! with the advantage to Black in the ending.]

21.Kh1? -1.70/18 Now Black's initiative gets out of control. White does not recover from this.

[White had to take the plunge with 21.Nxd5! Nxd4 22.Nxb6 Nxe2+ 23.Kg2 Threatens to win with Rfd1. *(23.Kf2* -1.34/19 23.Kg2 -0.40 is met with *Bc5+ 24.Be3 Bxb6 25.Bxb6 Nc3)* 23...Rg8 24.Nxa8 g4 is the strong threat. Rxg3+ and the aloof and taciturn king is rousted from his comfort zone with 25.Kf2 . After Bb5 26.Rfd1! Nxd1+ 27.Rxd1 Nc3! 28.Rxd6 Ne4+ 29.Ke1 Nxd6 30.Nc7+ Kd8 31.Nxb5 Nxb5 32.Ng5 Ke8 Hoping for ...Nd4. 33.Bf1! Rb3! 34.Ne4! Bxb5+ would now be deadly. Rb1+ 35.Kf2 Strongly threatening Bxb5+. Kd7 , White may yet hold the game.]

[21.Nxd5= -0.22/23 and White stays safe. Nxd4 22.Nxb6 Nxe2+ 23.Kf2 Bc5+ 24.Be3 *(24.Kxe2? Bb5+ 25.Ke1 Bxb6-+)* 24...Bxb6 25.Bxb6]

21...Nxd4-+ White's centre falls apart.

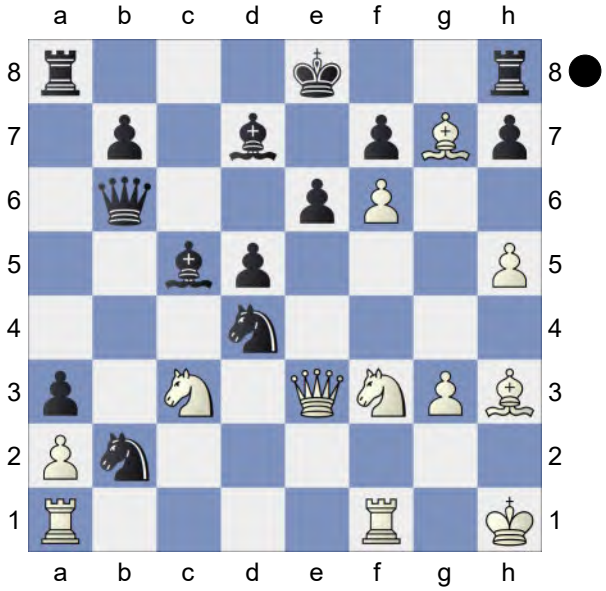
22.Qe3 -2.03/19

[22.Nxd4∓ -1.57/20 Qxd4 23.Nb5 Bxb5 24.Qxb5+ Kd8 25.Bf4 Qe4+ 26.Bg2]

22...Bc5 23.Bg7 -3.08/18

[23.Nxd5 Qc6 24.Ne7 Nxf3 *(24...Bxe7 25.Qxd4 Bc5 26.Qg4∓)* 25.Qxf3 Qxf3+ 26.Rxf3 Bxe7 27.fxe7 Bc6 *(27...Kxe7 28.Bg5+ Ke8 29.Bg2∓)*]

[23.Ne5 -2.19/19 is a better defense. Nc4 24.Nxc4 dxc4 25.Rab1 Bc6+ 26.Bg2]



23...Nf5! Discovered Attack, Double Attack **24.Qg5 h6!**

[Also crushing is 24...Be3! 25.Qg4 Rg8 .]

25.Nxd5? -5.05/19 An error in a losing position, after which White has maxed

out all his credit card limits.
[However, after 25.Qg4 Ne3 26.Nxd5 Nxd5 27.Bxh8 Black must now prevent Qg8+. 0-0-0 , White is up the exchange but totally busted since Black's threats include ...Rxh8 and ... Ne3.]
[25.Qg4 -2.98/20 Rg8 26.Ne5]
25...hxg5 Discovered Attack. Black is clearly winning. **26.Nxb6 Rxh5** The rook views h3 as a fragment of paradise. White's king remains oblivious to the situation which remains clear to all those around him: He has only moments to live. **27.Nxa8 Rxh3+** For White, the landscape is one of blighted dreams and deceased hope. The sagging state of White's unfortunate king suggests that his worthless defenders aren't keeping up their part of their job-description. The remainder of the game reminds us of a mystery novel, where seven or eight people (besides the original victim) are murdered, before the hero detective cracks the case. **28.Kg2** White is weak on the light squares **28...Rxg3+ 29.Kh2 Bd6** The d6-bishop, along with his ruthless confederates, approach their target unencumbered by concepts of right or wrong. Weighted Error Value: White=0.81/Black=0.09 (flawless)
[29...Bd6 30.Kh1 (the king's hiding place is discovered, mainly due to the loud, convulsive chattering of his teeth) g4 (→ ...Bc6!) 31.Ng5 Bc6+ and the evidence is presented and the white king's guilt remains incontrovertible. "Our bargain was that I would be spared upon surrendering, " White's king reminds the c6-emissary who responds, "I'm afraid you have been misinformed upon the matter, Your Grace." SUMMARY: When White enters 9 g3, you may consider 9...a5, avoiding 9...f6 (which weakens the e6-pawn). Black simply refuses to cooperate on the kingside, while pursuing expansion on the queenside.]
0-1

299 **C11**
□ **Doyle,Hugh**
■ **Anspach,F L**
North v South of 1900-1 (26) 1900
[BCM 1901 p261,MH]

H. Doyle v F. Anspach (Surrey); BCM xxi (1901) pp261-2 first seen in notes to another game. Doyle (of Egremont, but originally Irish) was Cumberland champion in 1900 and there is a picture of him in the 'Chess in Cumberland' booklet on page 11. He won the 1902-3 championship later. C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4 Womanhood xiv p.120;; BCM 1906 pp498-9: 'Womanhood xiv p.120; played 25 Nov 1904 to 23 April 1905 BCM 1906 p498; this issue had a profile of Cutler (with photo?). Cutler won a prize for this game against Stables. Many entertaining notes not input. Stables apparently died around the time the fifth tournament prelims ended in 1905; see Womanhood xv p.309 quoting from a letter hsi widow wrote to Cutler.' RR: 'Inf 85/(266)' **1.d4 e6 2.e4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.f4 Qb6 8.Nf3 Be7 9.Qc2** -0.14/23
[9.g3± 0.42/21]
[9.a3 f6 10.h4 0-0 11.b4 *(11.Rh3 a5 12.b3 Qc7 13.Neg1 a4 14.b4 fxe5 15.fxe5 Ndxe5* Vodicka,M-13...

cxd4 14.cxd4 Qd6 #2 USSR (ch) 5/122 1967) 11...cxd4 12.cxd4 a5 13.b5 Qxb5 14.Nc3 Qb6 15.Rb1 Qd8 16.Bd3 fxe5 17.dxe5 Nc5 18.Nb5 Nxd3+ 19.Qxd3 h6 20.Qg6 Bologan,V (2652)-Bauer,C (2571) 85/(266) Belfort 2002]

9...f6N

[9...cxd4 10.cxd4 0-0 11.Be3 f6 12.h4 fxe5 13.fxe5 Rxf3 14.gxf3 Ndxe5 15.0-0-0 Nb4 16.Qb3 Nc4 17.Kb1 a5 18.a4 e5 19.Rd2 Bf5+ 20.Kc1 Qc6 21.Bf2 Qh6 22.f4 exf4 23.Nc3 Nxd2 24.Kxd2 0-1 Stables,W-Cutler,G Womanhood tourney-4 final-A 1905]

10.Bd2

[10.Be3!?]

10...fxe5 0.64/24

[10...a5= -0.22/24]

11.fxe5 White is slightly better. **11...a5**

12.h4 Qa7 1.93/20

[12...a4± 0.59/21]

13.Be3 1.16/18

[13.Nf4+- 1.93/20]

13...cxd4 1.56/21

[Black should play 13...a4 1.16/18]

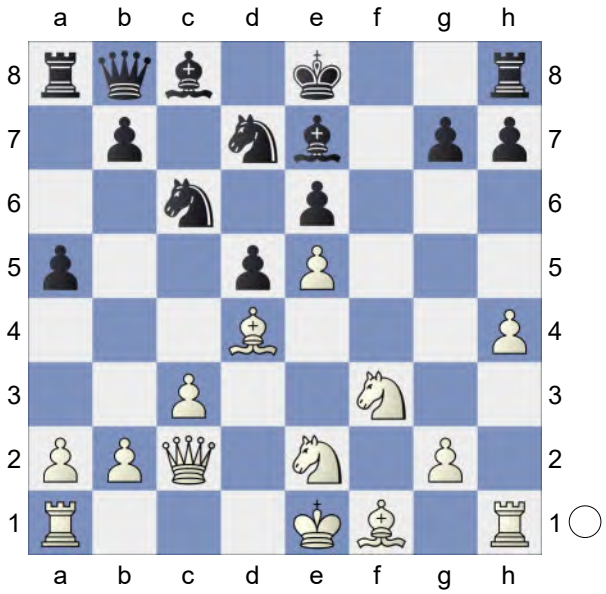
14.Bxd4 0.31/21

[14.Nexd4± 1.56/21 aiming for Nf5! Ndxe5 15.Nxe5 Nxe5 16.Bb5+ *(16.Nf5 Bc5±)* 16...Bd7 17.Nf5 Discovered Attack]

14...Qb8? 1.48/22

[14...Nc5± 0.31/21]

(Diagram)



15.Nf4!± Nf8? 2.64/19

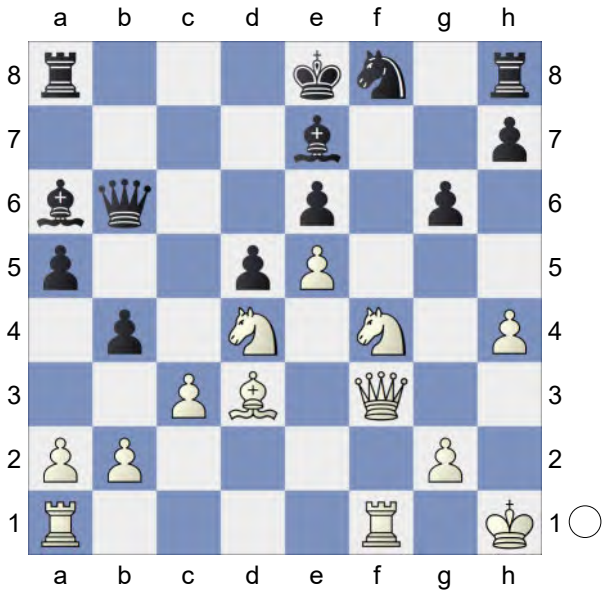
[⌓15...0-0 1.66/22]

16.Bd3+- b5 17.Qe2 b4 18.0-0 g6 19.Kh1 Nxd4 20.Nxd4

[Weaker is 20.cxd4 Qb6 21.Qe3 a4+-]

20...Qb6 21.Qf3 Ba6 7.97/19

[⌓21...Ra7 4.02/16 22.Nxd5 exd5 23.Qf7+ *(23.Qxd5 Ne6±)* 23...Kd8]



22.Nxd5! exd5 23.Qf7+ Kd7 24.Rf6 Qb7 and White announced mate in eight moves, commencing **25.Rd6+**

Weighted Error Value: White=0.37/ Black=1.01
1-0

300 **C11**
□ **Braun,A..**
■ **Papp,G..**
Rogaska Slatina 2009
[John Emms]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 Flexible. White doesn't yet play a2-a3 but waits to see what Black does first. **5...c5** This is Black's most popular response. **6.c3** Just like against 4...c5, White responds by taking the pawn. Let's return to the game and the position after 6 dxc5: **6...Nc6!** EXERCISE: Just for fun, list six possible moves for White in this position and then see if Braun's actual choice is on your list. **7.f4!?** Congratulations if this was one of the moves on your list. Maybe I should have made the exercise a bit fairer by suggesting a 15-move list! 7 c6 is one of the most amazing opening ideas in recent times. The position after 6...Na6 had been known for many years, with hundreds of games played in that time. It took the creative genius of Alexander Morozevich to discover such an idea, and since he unleashed his novelty in 2008, quite a few other players have followed suit. QUESTION: What's the point of 7 c6? Doesn't it just waste a move? And doesn't it also allow Black to gain more control of the centre? ANSWER: White does seem to be wasting a move just to give up a pawn (albeit one that was already doomed). This is probably why no-one had thought of playing such a crazy-looking move. However, when you look at it a bit more carefully, it becomes apparent that 7 c6 is not stupid at all, for the following reasons: 1. Black's knight is more than likely coming to c5 in any case, so that takes care of the "lost tempo" issue. 2. By playing c5-c6 White forces Black to alter the pawn structure and close the c-file. This can be pretty useful for White, if nothing else because his c-pawn is unlikely to come under the same pressure it would do on a half-open c-file. Let's briefly summarize older moves, which generally haven't posed a threat to Black: Let's now return to the position after the amazing 7 c6!?: **7...Be7! 8.Nf3 f6**
[8...Qb6]
9.a3
[9.g3 cxd4 10.cxd4! Nf8 11.Bg2 fxe5 Only forcing the queen to where she wants to go! 12.fxe5 Ng6 13.0-0 A really well played game by Papp. I especially liked his ...d6 and ...e5 plan followed by ...Bf5 to provoke e3-e4. This created a big weakness on d4 and active possibilities based on ...f5. White could only prevent ...f5 by incurring further weaknesses which eventually proved to be fatal. 0-0 simply looks too loosening and gives Black many tempting options, e.g. 14.Nf4 Nxf4 15.Bxf4 , so Braun unsurprisingly chooses to advance just one square. In fact the ...d6 and ...e5 plan looks strong almost regardless of what White plays. For example, Qb6 16.Rf2! Bd7 17.Rc1! Rac8 18.Be3! Qa6 19.Bf1 Qb6 20.Bd3 Nb4 21.Rxc8 Rxc8 22.Bb1 *(22.Bxh7+ Kxh7* and White resigned. a) *23.Ng5+ Bxg5! 24.Qh5+ Kg8! 25.Qf7+ Kh8 26.Bxg5 Qxd4*

27.Qh5+) 22...Rf8 23.Bg5 and Black had the initiative in N. Khurtsidze-T.Kosintseva, St Petersburg 2009. The rest of the game is worth seeing: Qd8 *(23...Bxg5 24.Nxg5 Rxf2 25.Bxh7+ Kh8 26.Qh5 g6 27.Bxg6+ Kg7 28.Qh7+ Kf8 29.Kxf2)* 24.h4! Be8 25.Qb3 *(25.Bxe7 Qxe7! 26.Ng5 h6! 27.Bh7+ Kh8 28.Rxf8+ Qxf8 29.Nxe6 Qe7!)*]

9...0-0 EXERCISE: Find one good move for Black against 10 Qc2, 10 e3 and 10 Bg5. **10.Neg1** ANSWER: Black's reply to most moves here should be ...a7-a5! to cement the knight's position on c5 by preventing or at least discouraging b2-b4. For example:

[10.b4]

10...fxe5! 11.fxe5 EXERCISE: White might be intending to fianchetto the dark-squared bishop. Can you figure out an effective plan against this? ANSWER: **11...cxd4!** Papp uses his central pawns to excellent effect. He prepares ...e5, which: 1. Allows the c8-bishop to develop; and 2. Forms a brick wall against the potential queen and bishop battery down the long a1-h8 diagonal. In view of this, White decides against putting his bishop on b2. I feel that Black already enjoys an edge in this position. **12.cxd4 Qa5+ 13.Bd2 Qb6 14.Bc3** EXERCISE: Find a good move for Black. ANSWER: **14...a5!** An excellent idea. After preventing Rb1 Papp threatens to hit the b3-pawn with ... Rb8. White can safeguard his pawn by playing e3-e4 but this is exactly what Black wants! **15.b3 Ndxe5** The e3-e4 advance has: 1. Opened the a7-g1 diagonal so that White must waste time organizing castling; and 2. Given Black a strong central outpost on d4. **16.dxe5 Qe3+** Papp is quick to occupy the d4 outpost with a knight. **17.Ne2 Rxf3 18.Qd2 Qxd2+ 19.Kxd2 Bg5+!** With ...f5 a possibility Braun felt obliged to play **20.Kc2** but after **20...Rf2 21.Rd1 Bd7** Black's positional advantages had only increased. For example, the knight on d4 is virtually untouchable now. The rest of the game sees Papp slowly but surely exploit these advantages. **22.Kb1 Rc8 23.h4 Be7 24.Bb2 Be8 25.h5 Rf5 26.g3 Rxh5 27.Bh3 Rh6!** Now Black is ready to break with ...h6, creating a target on the kingside which is soon picked off. **28.Bc1 g5 29.Bb2 Bg6+!**
0-1

301 **C11**
□ **Davis,Katherine**
■ **Bauder,Charles Frank**
CCLA Quarterly corr 1924
[Leise]

Myers: This game was awarded a Paul Wortman Brilliancy Prize of $2.50 for best game in a quarterly tournament during the year. **1.e4** Myers Leise **1...e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.f4 Nc6 7.c3 Qb6 8.Nf3 Be7 9.a3?! 0-0 10.Ng3 f6 11.Bd3 Kh8?N**

[⌓11...cxd4! 12.cxd4 fxe5 *(12...Kh8 13.Bb1 fxe5 14.fxe5 Re8 15.Qd3 Nf8 16.0-0 Bd7 17.Kh1 Ng6 18.Ne2 Rec8 19.Nf4 Be8 20.b4 Nd8 21.Bd2 Nf8 22.Ng5 g6 23.Qh3 Qxd4 24.Nxh7 Nxh7 25.Nxg6+ Bxg6 26.Bxg6 Qh4 27.Qf3* 0-1 Baumgardt, U-Gieritz,D/Oberliga GER 1996*/)* 13.fxe5 *(13.dxe5 a5 14.Bc2 Qa7 15.h4 Bc5 16.Bxh7+ Kf7 17.Qc2*

Ke7 18.Nh5 Ndxe5 19.fxe5 Nxe5 20.Nxe5 Bf2+ 21.Ke2 Kd6 22.Bf4 Rxf4 23.Nxf4 Qe3+ 24.Kf1 Bg3 25.Nfg6 Qb6 26.Nf7+ Kd7 27.Rh3 Qa6+ 28.Qe2 1-0 Moles Palleja,P-Duart Fernandez,J/corr ESP 1992/) 13...Rxf3 *(13...Kh8 14.Ne2 Rxf3 15.gxf3 Nxd4 16.0-0 Nxe2+ 17.Kh1 Nxc1 18.Rxc1 Nxe5 19.Bb1 Bd7 20.f4 Nf7 21.Qd3 g6 22.Rg1 e5 23.fxe5 Nxe5 24.Qe2 Bf6 25.Rg3 d4 26.Be4 Re8 27.Qg2 d3 28.Bxb7 d2 29.Rd1 Qxb2 30.h3 Nc4 31.Qd5 Qb5 32.Qf3 Re3* 0-1 Krug,P-Lieb,H/ Oberliga GER 1997/*; 13...a5 14.Ne2 Rxf3 15.gxf3 Bh4+ 16.Kf1 Ndxe5 17.Kg2 Nxf3 18.Kxf3 e5 19.Kg2 e4 20.Bxe4 dxe4 21.Ng3 Be6 22.Qh5 Qb3 23.Rf1 Bxg3 24.hxg3 Nxd4 25.Qd1 Nc2 26.Rb1 e3 27.Kh2 Qb5 28.a4 Qa6 29.Rg1 Rc8 30.Rg2 Qc6 31.b4 Bd5 32.b5 Qe6 33.Rb2 Bxg2* 0-1 Dalbrung,G-Nilsson,B/corr ICCF 1995/ *)* 14.gxf3 *(14.Qxf3 Qxd4 15.Ne2 Qh4+ 16.g3 Ndxe5 17.Qe3 Nxd3+ 18.Qxd3 Qf6 19.Rf1 Qe5 20.Bd2 Bd7 21.Bc3 Qd6 22.0-0-0 Be8 23.h4 Rc8 24.Nd4 Bg6 25.Qe3 e5 26.Nxc6 Rxc6 27.Qxa7 d4 28.Qxb7 Qe6 29.a4 dxc3 30.b4 h5 31.Qd7 Bxb4 32.Qxe6+ Rxe6 33.Rd8+ Kh7 34.a5 Ba3+ 35.Kd1 c2+ 36.Kd2 c1Q+ 37.Rxc1 Bxc1+ 38.Kxc1 e4 39.Ra8 e3 40.a6 e2 41.Kd2 e1Q#* 0-1 Schallopp,E-Paulsen,L/Leipzig GER 1877/) 14...Qxd4 15.f4 Nc5 *(15...Bc5 16.Rf1 Bb6 17.Ne2 Ba5+ 18.b4 Qxa1 19.bxa5 Nf8 20.Qd2 Bd7 21.Kf2 Nxe5 22.fxe5 Qxe5 23.Kg1 Re8 24.Qb4 Bc6 25.Bf4 Qh5 26.Ng3 Qh4 27.Bd6 Qxb4 28.axb4 g6 29.b5 Bd7 30.Bc5 Ra8 31.Bd4 a6 32.bxa6 bxa6 33.Bc5 e5 34.Rxf8+ Rxf8 35.Bxf8 Kxf8 36.Bxa6 Bc6 37.Kf2 Ke7 38.Ke3 Kd6 39.Be2 Kc5 40.Kd2 e4 41.Ke3 d4+ 42.Kf4 d3 43.Bd1 Kd4 44.Nf1 e3 45.Nxe3 g5+ 46.Kxg5 Kxe3 47.a6 Kd2 48.Bg4 Ke1 49.Kh6 Be4* ½-½ Flechsig,E-Schottlaender,A/ Leipzig GER 1879/*)* 16.Bc2 Bd7 17.Qe2 Na5 18.Rb1 Nab3 19.Be3 Qc4 20.Qxc4 dxc4 21.Rd1 Bc6 22.Rf1 g6 23.Ke2 Na4 24.Rb1 Nbc5 25.Bd4 Rd8 26.Ke3 Nb6 27.Ne2 Nd5+ 28.Kd2 b5 29.b4 cxb3 30.Bxb3 a5 31.Bxd5 Rxd5 32.Ke3 Na4 33.Rfc1 Bd7 34.Rb3 b4 35.axb4 axb4 36.Rc7 Nc5 37.Rb1 Bf8 38.Ra7 Bb5 39.Nc1 Nd7 40.Ra8 Kg7 41.Rc8 Be7 42.Na2 g5 43.fxg5 Bxg5+ 44.Ke4 Ba6 45.Rc7 Bd8 46.Ra7 Rxd4+ 47.Kxd4 Bb6+ 48.Ke4 Bxa7 49.Rxb4 Bc5 50.Rb2 Ba3 51.Rg2+ Kf7 52.Rf2+ Ke7 0-1 Von Feyerfeil,E-Lipke,P/Breslau GER 1889/]

[11...fxe5 12.dxe5 c4 13.Bc2 Nc5 14.Qe2 Bd7 15.Rb1 Nd3+ 16.Bxd3 cxd3 17.Qxd3 Be8 18.Be3 Bc5 19.Bxc5 Qxc5 20.Qd2 Na5 21.Qd4 Nb3 22.Qxc5 Nxc5 23.0-0 Bb5 24.Rfe1 Nd3 25.Re3 Nxf4 26.Nd4 Bc4 27.Rd1 Rf7 28.h3 Raf8 29.Kh2 h6 30.Nh1 Re7 31.g3 Ng6 32.Kg2 Kf7 33.Nf2 Ke8 34.Rd2 Kd7 35.b3 Ba6 36.c4 h5 37.h4 Kc8 ½-½ Dubinsky,R-Kastanieda,G/ Moscow RUS 1995/]

[11...a5 12.Ng5 fxg5 13.Qh5 Rf5 14.Nxf5 exf5 15.Bxf5 Nf8 16.Bxc8 Rxc8 17.Qh3 Rc7 18.0-0 cxd4 19.cxd4 Nxd4 20.Be3 Ne2+ 21.Kh1 Qxb2 22.Qf3 d4 23.Rae1 Rc2 24.fxg5 Qa2 25.e6 Qxa3 26.Ra1

Qd6 27.Rxa5 dxe3 28.Qxe3 Nf4 0-1 Bjorkman,A-Van Heest,M/corr SWE-NED 1946/]

12.Ng5?!

[12.Bc2!?]

12...fxg5 13.Qh5 Rf5!

[13...h6? 14.Qg6 Rf5

A) 15.Nxf5 exf5 16.fxg5 *(16.Bxf5 Nf8)* 16...Nf8∓;

B) 15.Qe8+ Nf8 16.fxg5 Qd8 17.Qxd8 Bxd8 18.Nxf5 exf5 19.gxh6 cxd4 20.hxg7+ Kxg7 21.cxd4 Bb6∓;

C) 15.Bxf5 Nf8! *(15...exf5 16.Nxf5 Bf8 17.0-0→)* 16.Qe8 exf5∓;

D) 15.Nh5 Bf8 16.Bxf5 *(16.g4 Qd8* threat ...Ne7*)* 16...exf5 17.fxg5 cxd4 18.gxh6 gxh6 19.e6 Nd8 20.Nf4 dxc3 21.e7 Bxe7 22.Qxb6 Nxb6 23.Ng6+± Myers]

14.Qh3 Nf8

[14...g6! 15.Nxf5 exf5 16.e6 Nf8 17.dxc5 Qxc5 18.fxg5 Nxe6 19.Qg3 d4 20.Bd2 Ne5 21.cxd4 Nxd4-+ Myers]

15.fxg5 Bxg5?

[15...cxd4!! 16.Nxf5 exf5 17.e6 g6 18.Qg3 dxc3 19.bxc3 Nxe6 20.Bd2 Qb2 21.Rd1 Qxa3 22.0-0 Qc5+ 23.Kh1 a5-+ Myers]

[15...Ng6∓]

16.Nxf5 Bxc1?

[16...exf5!? 17.Bxg5 Qxb2 18.0-0 Qxc3 19.dxc5 f4 20.Bf5 Qxc5+ 21.Kh1 Bxf5 22.Qxf5 Ng6 23.Rac1 Qf8± Myers]

17.Nd6! Bd2+ 18.Kd1?

[18.Kxd2! cxd4 *(18...Qxb2+ 19.Bc2 cxd4)* 19.Rhf1 Qxb2+ 20.Bc2 Leise (Avery #44): ' ±' dxc3+ 21.Qxc3 Qxc3+ 22.Kxc3 Nd7 23.Rf7+- Myers]

18...Ne7?

[18...Bf4! 19.Rf1 Qxb2 20.Rxf4 Qxa1+ 21.Kc2 Nxd4+ 22.cxd4 Qa2+ 23.Kd1 Qa1+ 24.Kc2 Qa2+= Myers]

19.Rf1 Nf5 20.Rb1 Kg8

[20...Bh6 21.g4]

21.Kxd2 Nxd6

[21...cxd4 22.Qf3 dxc3+ 23.bxc3 Qd8 24.Kc2 b6 25.Rbe1 Bd7 26.Nxf5 exf5 27.Qxd5+ Kh8 28.Kb2 g6 29.g4 fxg4 30.Qd6+- Myers]

22.exd6 Qxd6 23.dxc5

[23.Rxf8+!! Kxf8 24.Rf1+ Ke8 25.Bb5+ Bd7 26.Qxh7 Kd8 27.Qg8+ Kc7 28.Qxa8 Bxb5 29.Rf7+ Bd7 30.Qf8+- Myers]

23...Qxc5 24.Rxf8+ Kxf8 25.Rf1+ Ke7 26.Qxh7

[26.Qh4+! Ke8 27.Qxh7 Kd7 28.Qxg7+ Kc6 29.h4 Qb6 30.Kc2 Qc7 31.Rf7 Qh2 32.h5 Qxh5 33.Rc7++- Myers]

26...Bd7 27.Qxg7+ Kd6 28.b4

[28.Rf7! Rd8 29.h4 Qg1 30.h5 Qa1 31.b4 Qb2+ 32.Bc2 e5 33.Qf6+ Kc7 34.h6+- Myers]

28...Qc8 29.Rf7

[29.Qg3+! Ke7 30.Bg6 Qg8 31.Rf7+ Qxf7 32.Bxf7 Kxf7 33.Qc7+- Myers]

29...b5 30.Qg3+ Kc6 31.Bxb5+

[31.Qe3! Kd6 32.Qf4+ Kc6 33.Qf2 Kd6 34.h4 Qd8 35.h5 Rc8 36.Qf4++- Myers]

31...Kxb5 32.Qd6 Be8? 33.Rc7! Qd8 34.Rc5+! Ka4 35.Kc2! Bb5 36.Rxb5! Kxb5 37.a4+

[37.a4+ Kxa4 38.Qa6+ Qa5 39.Qxa5#]

1-0